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Hundreds of East Germans rush through a newly opened crossing point. (Reuter wirephoto)

Wall swept away by human wave

Over a million flock West in goodwill invasion

WEST BERLIN, Nov 11, (Agencies): More than one million East Germans surged across the Berlin Wall and the border with West Germany today in a goodwill invasion which swept away four decades of division and mistrust.

Up to 500,000 people on foot and in smoke-belching cars flooded into West Berlin through newly opened crossings in the wall, turning the heart of the old German capital into an immense traffic jam.

East German guards, overwhelmed by the crush of humanity seeking a glimpse of life in the West, gave up trying to check identity papers.

But vast majority of the East Germans planned to return home, unlike more than 225,000 of their compatriots who have started a new life in the West so far this year.

Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev, meanwhile, told US President George Bush in an informal message he supported East Germany's decision to open its borders and hoped the situation there would remain calm and peaceful.

Hungary's Foreign Minister, Gyula Horn, said in Budapest he believed the changes in East Germany might in the long-term lead to German reunification and dissolution of the Warsaw Pact and the Nato Western alliance.

Benazir appoints foe as minister

ISLAMABAD, Nov 11, (AP): Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto today sacked a cabinet minister implicated in a murder case and replaced with him a former opponent of her Pakistan People's Party government.

Her office made no comment on the change, but an aide said it was part of a cabinet reshuffle expected since Benazir survived a parliamentary no-confidence motion on Nov 1.

"This is not the reshuffle as such, but part of it," said the aide. He asked not to be identified by name.

President Ghulam Ishaq Khan administered the oath of office today to Ghulam Mohammad Maneka as minister of manpower and overseas Pakistanis, according to an official announcement.

Maneka's deputy, Makhdoom Alam Anwar, also was sworn in along with Ghulam Akhtar Lasi as deputy minister of labour.

Maneka replaces Mukhtar Awan, who is sought in Punjab province on charges of conspiracy in connection with the murder of two right-wing students in Mukhtar's hometown of Multan last July.

Awan has remained in Benazir's home province of Sindh since the Punjab warrant was issued on Aug 25.

He has maintained his innocence, claiming the warrant was politically motivated by the Punjab provincial government, which is run by Benazir's staunchest opponents, the nine-party Islamic Democratic Alliance (IDA).

(Continued on Page 2)

Pakistan resents temple

Muslims asked to vote against Rajiv

ISLAMABAD, Nov 11, (Agencies): Pakistani Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto has described plans by hardline Hindus to build a temple at a controversial site near a 16th-century northern Indian mosque as wilful desecration.

"This step is a wilful decision of an Islamic holy place and arouses the deepest resentment among Muslims all over the world," she said in a statement yesterday.

It was her first comment on an issue that could cost Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi crucial Muslim votes in this month's general elections.

Hindu fundamentalists on Thursday began building the temple at Ayodhya in Uttar Pradesh state at a site they say is the birthplace of the Hindu deity Ram where the Muslim Emperor Babar built the "Babri Masjid" (mosque).

Benazir said Islamic Pakistan's policy was not to interfere in the internal affairs of other states.

"However the developments in the Babri Masjid issue are a matter of deepest concern for Muslims both inside and outside India."

"The people of Pakistan share the anguish which these developments have caused to their Muslim brethren world-wide."

Benazir said it was the Indian government's responsibility "to take effective steps to put an end to communal killings and to ensure that the Muslims in India are provided full security of life and property and that the sentiments of the Islamic ummah (nation) are respected."

Meanwhile, a senior Islamic leader in India instructed the country's 100 million Muslims today to reject blandishments and vote against Rajiv in elections later this month.

The polls starting on Nov 22 are widely viewed as the closest contest in modern-day India.

Rajiv's Congress (I) Party has relied on Muslim votes to win every election but one since independence in 1947.

Syed Abdullah Bukhari, imam of Delhi's main Jama Masjid mosque, said in a statement, "I appeal to the people of India in the coming election, undaunted by the allurement of money, threats of repression and all poll gimmicks to vote for (the opposition) Jagata Dal candidates."

The call appeared to be partly in response to Hindu-Muslim riots in the north Indian town of Bhagalpur.

Five more people were killed in Bhagalpur last night, taking the toll to well over 200 in one of the worst Hindu-Muslim clashes in modern-day India.

The victims were mainly Muslims.

About 100 houses were set ablaze by rioters in Bhagalpur's suburbs, the Press Trust of India news agency said. Hindus and Muslims clashed in several other north Indian towns after Friday prayers.

The statement, read by the imam's son, Syed Ahmed Bukhari, and broadcast through loudspeakers to hundreds of worshippers at the mosque, said Rajiv's five-year rule had thrown the country "back into an age of barbarism for the sake of its political gains and out of sheer ineptness."

But Muslim sources said Rajiv aides secured a small victory in late night talks at the mosque by persuading the imam to withdraw a personal attack on the prime minister.

They also persuaded him to condemn the right-wing Hindu Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), which has vocally supported the campaign by hardline Hindus to go ahead with building a Hindu temple next to a 16th century mosque in the north Indian town of Ayodhya.

"The executive has connived with the Hindu revivalists and totally alienated Muslims," Ahmed Bukhari said referring to the dispute over the temple.

"The BJP is in the election fray with the slogan of the Hindu Rashtra (state). Therefore, supporting BJP is unimaginable," the statement said.

In Faizabad near Ayodhya, Muslims continued to protest against the Hindu bid to build the temple. More than 4,000 Muslims, shouting the slogan,

(Continued on Page 2)

The East German Interior Ministry said today one-sixth of East Germany's population had seized the chance to get visas for the West since border gates were flung open two days before.

East Berlin authorities reopened an underground railway link sealed for 28 years since the Wall was built but two lines were closed because station platforms were clogged beyond capacity.

Crowds packed the pavements 20 deep as East Germans, easily recognisable in uniform anoraks and scruffy trousers, gawped at the price and range of consumer luxuries in West Berlin's glossy shopping boulevards.

In the northern city of Luebeck, the city council ran out of cash to pay East Germans the 100 marks (\$60) in "welcome money" from the Bonn government.

East Germany, sailing into uncharted waters with a programme of free elections, economic reform and unrestricted travel, said it had issued 2.7 million visas since it opened its borders to West Germany on Thursday night.

At the Helmsdorf border post, typical of others, police said 27,000 East German cars had poured into the West and a 40-mile (60 km) queue was waiting to cross.

In Bonn, West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl announced plans to meet East German leader Egon Krenz in late November or early December and discuss the communist state's political crisis.

Kohl, reflecting West and East German anxiety that reform could run out of control, told reporters after an emergency cabinet meeting that "prudence and judgement" were required.

Krenz, in the vanguard of a headlong flight from rigid communist orthodoxy, said he told Kohl by telephone that German reunification would not be on the agenda at their meeting.

"My concern as a representative of East Germany is to stress that there are two sovereign German states that must get along well with each other," he said.

In a further sign that the communist leadership was bent on breaking the mould set by hardline former leader Erich Honecker, two of the party's 15 regional branches chose new leaders today, the state news agency ADN said.

Economic success was reckoned to be crucial to Krenz' attempts to restore communist authority, badly dented by weeks of mass street protests and a mass exodus of key workers to the West.

Travellers can get only 15 West German marks (\$8) a year from the state bank to spend on their trips.

"That's hardly enough for lunch and a beer in West Berlin," complained a man from Dresden queuing to change money before crossing the wall at Checkpoint.

(Continued on Page 5 Col. 6)



West Berlin citizens climb atop the Berlin wall. (Reuter wirephoto)



East Germans hammering the wall while waiting for a mechanical shovel to make a new crossing. (Reuter wirephoto)



East Germans display souvenir bricks from the wall after a mechanical shovel bit off chunks to make a new crossing point. (Reuter wirephoto)

Train accident kills many in Iraq

BAGHDAD, Nov 11, (Reuters): Several passengers were killed when four carriages of a train went off the rails in north central Iraq last night, Iraqi News Agency INA said today.

In a rare report in Iraq of such accidents, the agency blamed heavy rains for the derailment of the Baghdad-Mosul passenger train 200 km (125 miles) north of Baghdad. It did not give precise casualty figures.

Weather

CLOUDY to partly cloudy weather with light to moderate variable wind and a chance for scattered rain. State of sea: Slight to Moderate. High water: 11.18 am, 10.33 pm. Low water: 4.54 am, 4.58 pm. Sunrise: 6.10 am. Sunset: 4.54 pm. Maximum temperatures recorded: Kuwait: 24°C 75°F. Bahrain: 24°C 75°F. Falkland: 23°C 77°F. Minimum temperatures recorded: Kuwait: 18°C 64°F. Bahrain: 20°C 68°F. Falkland: 20°C 68°F. Maximum temperatures expected: Kuwait: 24°C 75°F. Bahrain: 24°C 75°F. Falkland: 23°C 77°F. Minimum temperatures expected: Kuwait: 18°C 64°F. Bahrain: 20°C 68°F. Falkland: 20°C 68°F. Maximum humidity recorded: Kuwait: 55 per cent. Bahrain: 52 per cent. Falkland: 57 per cent.

Israeli allegation on oil

Kuwait rebuts charges

UNITED NATIONS, Nov 11, (Kuna): Kuwait has rejected as "air pollution" Israel's unfounded allegation that most of South Africa's oil imports come from Arab countries of the Gulf and that those imports are increasing.

"The reference the Israeli delegation made to the question of oil embargo lacks both accuracy and sincerity," said Kuwaiti representative Nabeeha Al Mulla during the General Assembly's annual debate on apartheid.

The Israeli delegate had quoted as a source the Shipping Research Bureau and who he thought was Norway's foreign minister in 1985. That official, Foysnes, allegedly told the Norwegian Parliament that 95 per cent of the oil South Africa imported came from Arab countries of the Arabian Gulf.

"The Israeli delegation might explain to the assembly why the bureau then concluded that the report shows a 'large number of misrepresentations and inaccuracies'."

Al Mulla also said the Norwegian official quoted by the Israeli delegate was not the Norwegian foreign minister, but state secretary of foreign affairs, a post that does not even entitle him to address the Parliament.

Instead, Al Mulla quoted a true former Norwegian foreign minister, the late Knut Frydenlund, as saying that "whereas most major oil exporting countries have declared their support to the oil embargo against South Africa, very few major shipping nations have done so."

Cory receives pledges of economic support: Bases talks next month

WASHINGTON, Nov 11, (AP): Philippine President Corason Aquino yesterday completed a visit to Washington that produced pledges of economic support, but no outward sign that she will support continued US use of military bases in her country.

The President's last official meeting was a 30-minute talk with US Defence Secretary Richard Cheney, described by Cheney to reporters as "most pleasant."

Philippines Foreign Secretary Raul Manglapus, who participated in the session with Cheney at a downtown hotel, said it was decided that exploratory talks on the military base issue

will begin in Manila in mid-December.

He said whether the December talks lead to substantive negotiations on a new agreement on US use of Philippine bases after the existing pact expires in 1991 depends on the results of the exploratory talks.

Manglapus, who will lead the Manila talks, echoed earlier Philippine statements here that Aquino and her government want to start with exploratory meetings on the question of whether there is a genuine basis for negotiating continued US use of Subic Bay naval station, Clark Field Air Base and four smaller installations in the islands.

President George Bush and administration officials, however, have voiced optimism that the process will lead to a new agreement, driven by the logic that the arrangement benefits both countries and the security of the entire East Asian region, as some put it.

Earlier, Aquino had breakfast with Vice-President Dan Quayle and US-backed Nicaraguan opposition candidate Violeta Chamorro.

The two women — both the wives of slain national leaders — discussed their common experiences in entering politics, said Carnes Lord, an aide to Quayle.

Mrs Chamorro is in the United States this week seeking to raise funds for her February election against president Daniel Ortega.

Asked if Violeta hoped to cash in on some of Mrs Aquino's popularity, Lord said, "that was the idea, obviously."

It was the assassination of her husband, Sen. Benigno Aquino Jr., on Aug 21, 1983, that set off the chain of events that led to the "people power revolution" in the Philippines and brought Mrs Aquino to power. He was shot to death as he stepped off a plane at Manila's airport.

(Continued on Page 2)

Radical Palestinians to try Arafat

DAMASCUS, Nov 11, (Reuters): Breakaway Palestinian leader Abu Musa, claiming to speak for the true aims of Fatah, said today his group would try Yasser Arafat.

"Arafat recognised the Israeli enemy and abandoned the revolution's principles," he told reporters.

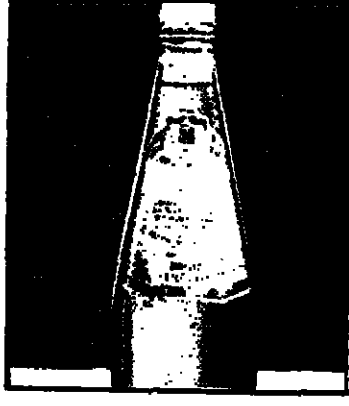
"He will be invited to defend himself or send anyone to defend him. If he does not do so he will be tried in absentia."

Abu Musa said his group, known as Fatah Uprising since its Syrian-backed rebellion against Arafat's leadership in 1983, would in future call itself simply "Fatah."

Arafat, chairman of the PLO also leads the mainstream Fatah group (the struggle).

He guided the PLO through major policy changes last year, renouncing terrorism and conceding that a Palestinian state would have to live alongside Israel.

Abu Musa said his group's decisions were taken this week by a congress attended by 490 delegates at a camp near Damascus.



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INTERNATIONAL

Plan for a mosque in Marseille

MARSEILLE, France, Nov 11, (UPI): Officials said yesterday they received design plans from an Algerian-born businessman for a "grand" mosque he and a group of local Muslims want to build in the city.

According to the plans submitted by Mustapha Slimani on Thursday evening the mosque and an adjoining vast park would cover up to 37.5 acres (15 hectares) on the northern outskirts of the port city and the minaret tower would be some 165 feet (50m) tall.

Socialist Mayor Robert Vigouroux has yet to approve formally the designs but has been supportive in public statements of proposals to build a mosque in Marseille, France's second city.

He has, however, stipulated privately that the house of worship cannot be fundamentalist oriented and that Sunni Muslims must cover 99 per cent of the construction costs, City Hall sources said.

Backers of the construction plan also need a building permit and to finalise details of financial backing from the French Muslim community and Arab governments before work can begin.

Slimani said the building would take three to four years to build and would cost about 35 million francs (\$58 million). "Vigouroux wanted a grand mosque and its grand," Slimani said.

"He said he wanted it to be beautiful and it is beautiful."

Marseille has about 160,000 Muslim residents, many of them North Africans who sailed across the Mediterranean to the port.

Zia's son calls for new probe into plane crash

LAHORE, Nov 11, (AP): The testimony of a convicted heroin smuggler in the United States has prompted a call in Pakistan for a new investigation into the mysterious 1988 plane crash that killed President Gen. Mohammad Zia ul-Haq.

Zia's son, Ijaz ul-Haq, and Humayun Akhtar, whose father, Gen.

Akhtar Abdul Rehman, chairman of the joint chiefs of staff, also died in the crash, claimed yesterday that the new civilian government may have been implicated.

"Now it has become necessary to uncover the details of the plot which deprived the nation of its leading defenders," Ijaz told reporters.

He said the need for a new probe was highlighted by the testimony earlier this week by convicted Pakistani heroin smuggler Mushtaq Malik that Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto's ruling party once contracted for Zia's assassination.

A spokesman for Benazir denied the charge, calling it an attempt to discredit her 11-month government because of

its campaign against the drug trade.

Malik, who previously served a prison term for heroin trafficking in Pakistan, is on trial in Springfield, Massachusetts, on charges of conspiring to smuggle \$10 million worth of heroin into the United States.

He startled prosecutors by testifying that when he was arrested last year he

was trying to hire a Jordanian drug dealer to assassinate Zia on orders from Benazir's Pakistan People's Party.

But Malik stopped short of saying the party had anything to do with the Aug 17, 1988, crash of a military C-130 transport plane which killed Zia, US Ambassador Arnold Raphael and 28 others. The crash occurred five months

after Malik's arrest in Brazil on the heroin charge.

Pakistani officials, including some who served Zia, blamed it on Soviet and Afghan agents seeking revenge for Pakistan's and the United States' military support of rebels fighting the Afghan government.



Sikh target

Wounded students being treated at a hospital in Patiala on Nov 10. (Reuters wirephoto)

Setback for Gonzalez

MADRID, Nov 11, (Reuters): Spain's ruling Socialist Party lost its absolute majority in Parliament today after a recount reallocated one of the seats it won in general elections last month.

The Socialist Workers' Party (PSOE) immediately appealed and a final decision will be given by the central election board by Dec 5.

The Oct 29 elections gave the party of Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez 176 seats in the 350-seat Cortes.

But the recount gave one of these seats in the southern province of Murcia to the communist-led United Left.

It was the second recount of the seat—the decision going previously to the PSOE.

Lanka radicals destroy distillery

COLOMBO, Nov 11, (AP): Suspected Sinhalese militants today set fire to an orchid nursery and the nation's largest distillery, military officials said.

In other violence linked to the radical Sinhalese uprising, at least 12 people were killed across the island nation yesterday and today said the officials, who cannot be identified under briefing rules.

The officials said 30 suspected militants set fire to vats at Rockland Distilleries Ltd. in Beruwala, 52 kilometres (32 miles) south of Colombo. The extent of damage was not immediately known, they said.

The distillery is the largest liquor manufacturer in the country.

An orchid nursery at the town of Kalgaheniya, 25 kilometres (16 miles) northeast of Colombo was also attacked by the radicals, the officials said. Damage was estimated at 9 million Sri Lankan rupees (\$236,000) the officials said.

Officials attributed no motive for the attacks, which occurred less than 48 hours after the government lifted a night curfew, saying security on the island had improved.

At least five radicals and a civilian were killed when militants attacked a police station at the town of Mavarella, 135 kilometres (85 miles) south of Colombo, they said.

Elsewhere, at least five radicals were found dead in the central Kandy district, and a soldier was shot and killed in the central town of Amunadapura.

Sinhalese militants have been waging a 2-year-old campaign against the Sinhalese-dominated government, claiming it offered too many concessions to the minority Tamils to end demands for a separate homeland in the north and east.

At least 11,000 people have died in the 6-year-old Tamil insurgency, and another 5,000 have been killed in the Sinhalese backlash.

Several civilians were killed when the Tamil National Front (TNF) attacked a camp of the Eelam People's Revolutionary Liberation Front (EPRLF) in eastern Ampara yesterday, an Eros parliamentarian representing the Trincomalee district said today.

Sivaprakasam Ratnarajah, who sits in parliament as member of the Eros political wing, the Eelam Democratic Front (EDF), said Eros cadres did not suffer any casualties in the attack because they were forewarned by the EPRLF leader, Varadaraja Perumal himself on Thursday. But at least two dead bodies of villagers had been found with shot guns in their side.

Ratnarajah said Perumal, who is the chief minister of the north east provincial council, had ordered them to vacate Ampara and when they refused to leave an area in which they had been living for more than 15 years, Perumal threatened the Eros camp would be attacked.

"We charged that the attack was led by the deputy speaker of the north east provincial council, Ganesh."

75,000 march in Dhaka
Call for ouster of Ershad

DHAKA, Nov 11, (UPI): More than 75,000 people demonstrated in central Dhaka today demanding the resignation of President Hosain Muhammad Ershad's seven-year-old military government.

Begum Khaleda Zia, the chief of Bangladesh Nationalist Party and leader of the seven party centralist opposition alliance,

told the crowd the protest was the start of a new campaign to oust Ershad.

"You must resign and hand over power to the people or else they will force you out," Khaleda told the gathering.

She said the alliance plans to hold a series of rallies and meetings culminating in a mass

demonstration Nov 28 in front of the government central secretariat. The protest ended peacefully with no incidents reported.

Ershad seized power in a military coup in 1982 and promised a rapid return to civilian rule. The opposition alliance is demanding an end to military rule and free elections.



Police guard mosque

Indian paramilitary police guard the Babri mosque in Ayodhya, which is claimed by Hindu worshippers as the birth place of their god Ram. Heavy police

presence prevented violence between Hindus and Muslims over the issue. (Reuters wirephoto)

Concern over Muslims

(Continued from Page 1)

"Death to (Rajiv) Gandhi," he said.

India today lashed out at Benazir for criticising a plan by Hindu fundamentalists to build a temple on the site of a 16th century Muslim mosque.

Foreign Affairs spokesman Aftab Seth accused Benazir of "unwarranted interference in our internal affairs."

Seth said Benazir should concentrate on preventing sectarian violence against Muslims in her own country.

"Those who have solved the minority problem by virtually eliminating the minorities in their own country would be well advised not to indulge in hypocritical platitudes," he said in a statement issued to reporters.

The Saudi government today denounced the Indian government's moves against Muslims in a mushrooming dispute with Hindus over the new temple.

"The kingdom expresses deep regret over the attempts by some irresponsible elements in India which deliberately harm the sentiments of Muslims there, and undermine their Islamic faith," a government spokesman said in a statement distributed by the official Saudi Press Agency.

The Saudi statement said: "The kingdom expresses profound concern over the deterioration of the situation and reiterates condemnation and denunciation of the threats against the life and property of the Muslim minority in India."

Iran said today that Muslims were being massacred in India and their holy sites desecrated.

A Foreign Ministry statement, carried by the national news agency Irna, called on the Indian government to protect its Muslim minority from attacks by the Hindu majority.

Benazir appoints...

(Continued from Page 1)

Maneka and Anwar were also members of the IDA but switched sides in the days leading up to the no-confidence move.

The centre-right opposition was able to muster 107 votes against the People's Party government, only 12 short of a majority in the 237-seat National Assembly.

Shaken by the close call, Benazir has announced plans to reach out to moderate opposition politicians for support and to rid her 11-month-old government of controversial ministers and advisers.

Opposition party leaders were due to begin talks in the southwestern town of Quetta today that could lead to a fresh no-confidence motion.

Secret files row

Congress denies Janata charge

NEW DELHI, Nov 11, (Reuters): Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's government, fearing defeat in this month's parliamentary elections, has started destroying sensitive files, India's main opposition party said yesterday.

"We have reliable information that that governmental agencies are destroying sensitive records because Rajiv Gandhi's government is sure of being voted out of power," opposition Janata Dal spokesman Yashwant Sinha told reporters.

Sinha refused to disclose the source of his information or the contents of the documents marked for destruction.

But he said some documents described pay-offs in a controversial defence deal that has dogged Rajiv's campaign.

The gruesome killing of 19 university students by Sikh extremists and continuing tensions between Muslims and Hindus over a religious site also cast a pall over campaigning for the elections on Nov 22, 24 and 26.

A spokesman for the ruling Congress (I) Party denied the opposition charge: "This is an exercise in disinformation which the opposition has been systematically carrying out," he said.

The government has consistently denied opposition charges

that Rajiv is covering up kickbacks from the award of a \$1.3 billion arms contract to Bofors of Sweden.

In Punjab yesterday, Sikh militants stormed into two college dormitories before dawn and sprayed automatic gunfire at sleeping students, police in the town of Patiala said.

Hindus, Muslims and one unidentified foreigner were killed.

Police said they believed the massacre was designed to show military Sikh power before the elections.

"This was well-planned and aimed at causing communal tension and riots all over the country," Punjab police chief K. P. S. Gill told reporters.

Addressing a huge campaign rally in Punjab's capital of Chandigarh yesterday, Rajiv criticised opposition parties for not condemning terrorism in their election manifestos.

"Do they fear the terrorists so much they cannot even speak about it or condemn it? Can those who cannot condemn terrorism protect you?" he said.

Sinha, the opposition spokesman, said the government was destroying dossiers kept on extremist groups to cover up its own incompetence and complicity in terrorism.

"If these files survive, the complicity of the government in

terrorist activities will be established," Sinha said.

Communal tensions continued to boil in north India where more than 1,000 Muslims were detained by police yesterday as their leaders pondered how the community should vote.

Shouting "Death to Rajiv Gandhi," Muslim demonstrators were blocked by a heavy cordon of police in the town of Faizabad as they tried to march on a disputed religious site. A thousand of them were later herded onto the police buses.

The protesters were angry at hardline Hindus who laid the foundation stone of a new temple close to a 16th century mosque in nearby Ayodhya. The site is sacred to both communities.

Conch shells sounded yesterday as the first of thousands of holy bricks donated by Hindu devotees were laid. Ironically, the brick was from Bangladesh, a predominantly Muslim country.

Four people were injured when Hindus and Muslims clashed in the north India town of Sultanpur yesterday over the Ayodhya issue, police said. Rajiv was scheduled to address a public meeting in the town.

In Delhi, an influential Muslim leader preached an angry Friday sermon condemning Rajiv over the row, which would cost his Congress Party crucial Muslim votes.

Cory seeks access to US markets

(Continued from Page 1)

The killing of Violeta's husband, La Prensa newspaper published Pedro Joaquin Chamorro, by gunmen in 1978 believed to be in dictator Anastasio Somoza's pay helped ignite the Sandinista revolution. Somoza was overthrown a year later.

Bush was effusive in his praise for Aquino during meetings at the White House.

"You deserve our help and you will get it. I pledge our continuing assistance to your government, and that means security assistance as well as aid to economic development," Bush said in welcoming remarks. "And it means co-operating in your important debt-reduction programmes."

Leases for the facilities expire in September 1991, and the

United States regards them as vital for projecting US military power throughout Southeast Asia and for stability in the Pacific. They serve as a counterpoint to Soviet naval forces based in Vietnam.

Aquino faces pressure at home to end the US access. An influential minority of Filipinos view the continued US military presence as an infringement on Philippine sovereignty and a vestige of the former US colonial administration.

Earlier at the White House, Bush noted that preliminary talks on the bases will begin next month and said, "We are confident we will mold a new and mutually beneficial long-term security partnership in the future."

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Ashkenazy back in Moscow

Soviet-born pianist Vladimir Ashkenazy, back in Moscow after an absence of 26 years, said yesterday he wanted to endorse the reform process initiated by Kremlin leader Mikhail Gorbachev.

"I had been invited earlier, I would have not thought twice or three times, but 10 times before agreeing to come," Ashkenazy told a news conference at Moscow's Culture Fund Headquarters.

"I thought that by accepting and coming here, I would in a modest way endorse what is happening in my country."

PEOPLE AND PLACES

Pacemaker implanted Hammer stable

LOS ANGELES, Nov 11, (AP) Industrialist Armand Hammer, chairman of Occidental Petroleum Corp., had a pacemaker implanted to regulate his heartbeat yesterday and was reported in good condition afterward.

Hammer, 91, has a history of painful heart flutters and had been reported to be making monthly visits to his cardiologist, Dr Jan Tillich.

The surgery was performed yesterday afternoon by pacemaker specialist Dr Peter Gray at the University of California at Los Angeles Medical Center.

Doctors expect Hammer to be released from the hospital in a few days and return to normal activity, said Occidental spokesman Frank Ashley.

"He is alert and talking," Ashley said.

A pacemaker regulates electrical activity in the heart so that it beats normally in a person who suffers abnormal heart rhythms.

Trading in Occidental shares has surged in the past when Hammer has been reported to be in ill health. The reason is that without the longtime chairman's presence, the company would become a likely takeover target.

Hammer, the chairman of Occidental, is nearly as well-known for his art collecting and philanthropy as for his business acumen. He considers himself a private ambassador for world peace and has met every Soviet leader since Vladimir Lenin.

AMHERST, New York: Homeowners who feel burdened by the chore of raking up autumn leaves might feel better if they consider the flight of the highway department.

Take Patrick Lucy, highway superintendent in the Buffalo suburb of Amherst. He figures his city's trees will shed about 2,200 truckloads of leaves this autumn. It will take 80 workers, using 44 pieces of equipment, to sweep up the 800 miles (1,287 kilometres) of curbs.

In Cheektowaga, another Buffalo suburb, highway superintendent Christopher Kowal will run seven leaf vacuumers for 16 hours a day, seven days a week to keep the streets clean. And even that is not holding off an estimated 200 calls a day — many from irate residents demanding better leaf service. (AP)

NEW YORK: Actor William Dafoe says he cannot identify with the Greek priest character he plays in "Triumph Over Evil," an Auschwitz survivor who survived the camp by fighting other inmates to death.

He told Model magazine for its December issue that he met Salame Aroch, the man the movie is based on, and found him to be different from the character he played.

"The Salame I know is not the Salame of our story. To presume there's any way you can understand what people felt (in Auschwitz) is a little ludicrous. I just confronted the action in the story," he said.

Dafoe, who played Jesus in "The Last Temptation of Christ," said Aroch wept when he returned to the camp in which his family died. The movie was filmed there. (AP)

\$4.2b plan for US homeless

DALLAS, Texas, Nov 11, (AP) President George Bush has proposed a \$4.2 billion package to help the poor buy houses and the homeless receive shelter, and vowed to "change the destructive practices" that have blocked affordable housing in inner cities.

Bush did not suggest ways to pay the federal share of the three-year programme, which would begin in the fiscal year starting next October.

He announced the package yesterday. It entails federal programmes tied to state and local matching funds and would include \$2.1 billion in grants to help residents of low-income housing buy their units.

Bush proposed a 50 per cent match of federal funds by state and local governments or non-profit organisations. The grants would be used to rehabilitate and purchase units in public housing, vacant and foreclosed properties held

by the government and "distressed" properties cited by the Federal Housing Authority.

Bush also offered incentives to local communities that remove bureaucratic barriers blocking the availability of affordable housing, such as zoning restrictions.

He would give \$210 million in insurance and rental rehabilitation grants for zones that best develop plans to remove such tax and regulatory barriers in inner city areas.

"We will change the destructive practices which have kept FHA out of the inner cities and distressed communities that most need its support," he said. He assigned Housing and Urban Development Secretary Jack Kemp to name a panel that would recommend ways to remove barriers to affordable housing.

He said the centerpiece of his plan was "to recapture the American dream of home ownership for those who have been left behind."

2 die in US navy fighter crash

SMYRNA, Georgia, Nov 11, (AP) A pregnant mother has died of burns she suffered when a fighter jet crashed into a suburban apartment complex, and searchers found a man's body in the wreckage of his incinerated apartment.

Navy investigators, meanwhile, continued hunting yesterday through the debris for clues to what caused Thursday evening's crash, but said they did not know what caused the accident.

Margie Padovani, 28, died of her injuries at 8.49 pm yesterday (0149 GMT today), said John Hester, night administrator at Grady Memorial Hospital, where Ms Padovani had been transferred with burns over half of her body.

The woman's 5-year-old daughter remained in critical but stable condition at Grady, Hester said. The pilot, who ejected just before the jet crashed in a fireball into the complex Thursday evening, also remained in critical condition.

"The worst part was just the sounds — that little girl screaming," said resident Tamara Owens.

Resident Bill Barcus, who still had a reddened face and a singed arm yesterday from facing the intense heat in an attempt to reach the burning woman, said: "I got to within 10 feet of the woman but it was too hot and I didn't have any shoes on. All I could hear were her screams, but I had to back off. I went back to get my shoes, but by then somebody had gotten her."

The young man's body was found yesterday afternoon in the apartment that absorbed the heaviest damage from the crash, Cobb County medical examiner Joseph Burton said.

About 30 people were left homeless by the fire, and about 50 others who lived in undamaged portions of the Pink Lake village apartment complex had not been allowed to return to their homes yesterday afternoon. Most spent Thursday night at a nearby motel, which offered free lodging.

Reserve Lt Cmdr Robert Jr of Marietta, the only person aboard the unarmed A-7E Corsair II attack plane, was reported doing better yesterday, but remained unconscious after brain surgery, said Kennestone Hospital spokeswoman Laurel Friedlake.

The jet crashed 2.5 miles (four kilometres) short of the runway at naval air station Atlanta, located at Dobbins Air Force Base, 15 mile (24 kilometres) northwest of Atlanta.

Woman buried in Cadillac

AURORA, Indiana, Nov 11, (AP) A woman was buried yesterday in the back of her beloved red Cadillac convertible, said funeral home officials.

Aurora Schuck told her husband, Raymond, about 10 years ago that she wanted to be buried with her 1976 Cadillac, so Schuck bought 14 plots at the Riverview cemetery.

Mrs Schuck, a native of Cuba, died yesterday of cancer at age 62.

Study on areas near nuclear plants Radiation no link to leukemia

LONDON, Nov 11, (AP) Increases in leukemia among young people living near nuclear plants are not caused by exposure to radiation, said a study released yesterday.

Researchers found that death rates from leukemia and Hodgkin's disease among young people were about as high in areas that were only considered for nuclear plants as in areas that actually contained nuclear plants.

Hodgkin's disease is a cancer of the lymph glands. Researchers said it has never been linked to radiation exposure.

The cause of heightened cancer rates found in the study remains a mystery.

But the researchers said their findings indicate an increased risk of leukemia is not associated with exposure to radiation, with the possible exception of the Sellafield nuclear reprocessing plant on England's north-west coast.

The Sellafield plant has been plagued by

radioactive leaks. Government studies have found a 10-fold increase in childhood leukemia a mile from the plant, and concluded the high incidence is linked to the plant.

In the study released yesterday, researchers from the Medical Research Council and the Imperial Cancer Research Fund said the new findings suggest areas near existing and potential nuclear sites might share "unrecognised risk factors other than environmental radiation pollution."

Dr Sarah Darby of the imperial cancer research fund said the findings point to something possibly "in the lifestyle of the young but at the present time we don't have a greater deal of handle on it."

The researchers investigated death statistics in 400 districts of England and Wales near existing or potential nuclear sites. The results were published in the Lancet, a weekly medical journal.

"Excess mortality due to leukemia and Hodgkin's disease in young people who lived near nuclear installations compared with the rest of the country after adjusting for factors such as urban-rural status. When the same analysis was carried out for areas near potential installations, there was a 14 per cent increase."

"We carried out this study because estimates of radiation received by children living near nuclear installations are extremely low, and it has been suggested that increases in the number of deaths are not caused by the presence of the installations, but by some other feature of the districts in which they tend to be built," she said.

The new findings on leukemia bolster this hypothesis, the researchers wrote. Other previous theories, such as those involving exposure to radon gas or viruses, could not account for all the excess cancers in young people, they said.

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Police burgle nursery

Two of 30 children who receive care in a nursery run by the leftist Federation of Salvadoran Union Workers (Fenastrea) look at the papers spilled from the cabinet when the nursery was broken into on Nov 10 by the Treasury police. Nursery workers claim the police entered forcefully without a warrant and stole 10,000 colones (\$2,000).

Fenastrea is the same union which suffered the bomb attack on Oct 31 which left 10 dead.

Salvadoran leftist guerrillas intensified their sabotage of El Salvador's electric system yesterday and the government had to ration power supplies. (Reuter wirephoto)

Centam truce talks progress

UNITED NATIONS, Nov 11, (AP): The Nicaraguan government and the rebels fighting to overthrow it have made progress towards restoring a truce and allowing the guerrillas to return home under a Central American peace accord, say officials.

But in Managua, the government and the rebels, known as Contras, accused each other of launching recent attacks in the eight-year-old civil war that has killed an estimated 12,000 people.

A rebel radio broadcast said Sandinista troops "continue bombarding the civilian population in Jinotega province" in northern Nicaragua, but the report provided no details of casualties.

The Nicaraguan Defence Ministry said rebel forces this week attacked trucks carrying government troops, killing two soldiers and injuring seven.

Last week, Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega cancelled a 19-month de facto ceasefire, saying Contra raids were endangering a campaign before national elections scheduled for Feb 25. The Contras deny ordering the attacks.

On Thursday and Friday at UN headquarters in New York, representatives of both sides held their first face-to-face peace talks in more than a year. After rejecting each other's opening proposals on Thursday, officials said, the two sides began making progress towards restoring the ceasefire.

Peace talks will resume on Monday in Washington at the headquarters of the Organisation of American States, said US spokesman Juan Carlos Brandt.

Brandt said progress was being made on the ruling Sandinista's demand for an agreement by the Contras to disband, and on rebel demands for a truce and an amnesty allowing them to return to Nicaragua without being imprisoned or fired upon.

Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega began a series of televised political debates yesterday and challenged the United States and Latin America to follow Nicaragua's example of free expression.

"I would invite every government in Latin America, the Caribbean and the US government to imitate Nicaragua's example," Ortega said.

Representatives of the ruling Sandinista Front and eight opposition parties participated in the nationally televised discussion, in which the opposition parties strongly criticised the government.

17 Peruvians die in rebel attacks

LIMA, Nov 11, (AP): Maoist guerrillas trying to disrupt local elections this weekend blew up power lines and attacked troops and civilians, and 17 people were killed, police said yesterday.

Among those killed in the attacks late Thursday and yesterday were seven local officials and candidates. That raised to more than 135 the number of officials and candidates assassinated by the Shining Path rebels this year.

The government says more than 15,000 people have been killed in political violence since the Shining Path launched their insurgency in 1980, and the increasing tempo of attacks have been denounced by all political parties. Thousands marched in Lima Nov 3 for peace.

FAA orders jumbo checks

SEATTLE, Nov 11, (AP): The Federal Aviation Administration has directed airlines to expand inspections for possible cracks on all models of Boeing 747 airliners with 15,500 or more flights.

The FAA said in an emergency airworthiness directive that an airline conducting a more limited inspection ordered last week found "multiple longitudinal skin cracks"

outside the specified area.

"This new information indicates that the inspection requirements of (the previous directive) must be extended to detect all cracks. Such cracking, if not detected, could result in rapid decompression of the aircraft," said the directive, issued by the FAA's Northwest Mountain region office in Seattle on Thursday.

The new inspection, by visual and electronic methods, includes all of the nose section back to the passenger door.

The directive also expands the number of planes that must be inspected to include 123 planes world-wide and 59 in the United States. The planes are from among the first 430 747s to roll off Boeing's Everett production line, starting in 1968.

Third World births a curse

OTTAWA, Nov 11, (Reuter): The exploding Third World birth rate could drive global population to 14 billion by early in the 21st century, with disastrous consequences for developed nations, international family planning experts predict.

A meeting of the International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF) wound up proceedings yesterday, warning that the world has only a decade to slow population growth and avert "a crisis of immense proportions."

The London-based group said that while contraceptive use in developing countries has been rising from five per cent in the 1960s to 45 per cent today, there are still 300 million people in the Third World who want birth control but cannot get it. That figure will climb to 875 million by 2000.

World Bank president Barber Conable told the meeting earlier he was worried "about the serious strains that more billions of people will impose on the earth's environment."

"Our lands can be made to feed our populations, but at what cost to the earth's ability to sustain the livelihood of future generations? Sustainable agriculture... is impossible in this environment of expanding human population," he said.

Control

Experts at the conference said if the millions who want to practise birth control are allowed, the world might be able to stabilise its population at around 8.5 billion by 2025. If not, it could balloon to 14 billion, with 90 per cent of the increase occurring in poorer countries.

IPPF secretary-general Dr Halldor Mahler said rich nations stand to gain from a lower birth rate in the developing world, since per capita incomes there would increase and create new markets for the industrialised world.

But he said that if they remain complacent now they could find their very survival threatened.

The family planning movement is also gearing up to fight opposition from anti-abortion groups and religious fundamentalists. These groups have sought, sometimes successfully, to curtail government family planning services, cut government funding of international population control agencies and set up offices in developing nations to spread their anti-contraceptive message to often poorly educated people.

The groups have also made pharmaceutical companies nervous about marketing new and useful contraceptive drugs.

Officials pointed to the success of the groups in forcing Roussel Uclaf, a French drug company, from licensing its RU486 abortion pill world-wide.

Plague resurges

THE plague has resurged among humans in Africa, pushing the number of world-wide cases to 1,363 last year and causing 134 deaths, the World Health Organisation said yesterday.

A report from the UN agency said the Central African nations of Zaïre and Tanzania accounted for three-fourths of all cases of the contagious disease, usually carried by fleas from infected rats.



Heavy turnout

The possibly record-setting flood of voters ebbed to a trickle on Saturday in elections that will bring independence to this South African-ruled territory. More than 91 per cent of the 701,483 registered voters had cast their ballots by last night, and with one more day to go in the five-day polling, Namibian territorial officials said today they expected a total voter turnout of 98 per cent.

The United Nations monitoring team believes "an all-time percentage poll record may be achieved for fully democratic elections here," spokesman Fred Eckhardt said on Friday.

The final voter turnout was to be announced this morning. Ballot counting begins tomorrow and results are expected Wednesday.

Some of the 350 polling stations in the vast, semi-desert territory were idle this morning, although people who had not been able to take off work to vote during the week were expected to arrive before the scheduled 7 pm (1500 GMT) poll closing time.

Officials said the polls would stay open until everyone in line had voted. Earlier, lines had stretched as much as a mile (more than a kilometre).

(Reuter wirephoto)

Plot to kill Rawlings

Ghana releases evidence

ACCRA, Ghana, Nov 11, (AP): A summary of evidence released by the military government has alleged that Maj. Courage E.K. Quarshigah plotted the assassination of Ghanaian leader Flt Lt Jerry Rawlings.

Quarshigah, a former close associate of Rawlings, was detained on subversion charges last month, along with six other officers of the military and military police.

Last evening, the Defence Ministry released a summary of an inquiry into Quarshigah's activities which said the major had recruited other officers to carry out the assassination plot.

The summary said: "There is evidence to the effect

that Maj. Quarshigah intended the plot to be executed without any trace of his involvement."

Quarshigah hoped to declare himself head of state during the confusion following the assassination, the statement said.

The major has denied the charges, the statement said, adding that the inquiry was conducted in private.

It said Quarshigah had recruited officers disgruntled about their treatment by the military. Quarshigah said he had consulted his own oracle, who had told him that he would become the next head of state. The other plotters were given money to consult oracles, the statement said.

Mbeki plans trip to ANC headquarters

Pretoria removes restrictions

CAPE TOWN, Nov 11, (Reuter): ANC veteran Govan Mbeki said yesterday he plans to visit the black nationalist movement's Lusaka headquarters following the removal of restrictions on his freedom.

Mbeki told the South African Press Association he and seven other African National Congress (ANC) leaders released from prison last month had applied for passports to visit Zambia.

One of them, former trade unionist Oscar Mpetsha, was granted a passport on Thursday to visit relatives in Britain.

Mbeki, 79, was the first of seven blacks jailed for life with ANC leader Nelson Mandela in 1964 to be released from prison. He left prison in November 1987 but his freedom was severely limited by a police order.

He was forbidden to write for

publication, to speak in public, to meet journalists or to leave the district of his home in the south coast city of Port Elizabeth.

Law and Order Ministry spokesman Leon Meisel said yesterday the restrictions had been dropped.

He gave no reason for the decision, which will allow Mbeki to work with the other ANC leaders including former secretary-general Walter Sisulu.

Mbeki's son, Thabo, is a senior member of the ANC's leadership in exile. He is based mainly in Zambia, but travels widely.

Five members of a new police trade union formed by rebel South African policeman Gregory Rockman said yesterday they had been warned by a senior officer that they could face disciplinary action.

Uganda closes varsity

KAMPALA, Nov 11, (AP): Officials closed Uganda's main Makerere University after a 12-day strike because of the "spoiled students' arrogant behaviour," the official radio reported today.

"The students refused to go to classes, in spite of the fact that various meetings with government officials had taken place," the state-owned Radio Uganda said, quoting a government statement.

Vice-Chancellor George Kirya ordered an indefinite closure shortly after noon yesterday.

The closure came a day after the students rejected President Yoweri Museveni's verbal assurance on Thursday that some government allowances withdrawn in July would be reinstated.

Africa: major heroin conduit

NAIROBI, Nov 11, (AP): Iran's revolution and the war in neighbouring Afghanistan have turned Africa into a major smuggling route for southwest Asian heroin.

"They (Africans) have made the traffic veritably intercontinental, causing a serious problem," says Interpol, the international police organisation based in Lyons, France.

The money is good. The wholesale price for a kilogramme (2.2 pounds) of pure heroin is about \$150,000, says a US Drug Enforcement Administration agent based in Cairo, Egypt.

Diluted and peddled on the streets of New York, London or Paris, a kilogramme of the narcotic can fetch up to \$1 million.

Western Europe is the destination of most of the heroin routed through Africa from Pakistan and Afghanistan, although some is shipped across the Atlantic Ocean to North America.

Most of the heroin smuggled into the United States is believed to originate in the opium poppy fields of Southeast Asia, particularly Laos, and takes a different route to market.

Interpol says it has no estimate of the amount of heroin moving through Africa, but has statistics suggesting it has risen sharply in recent years.

The agency says authorities in Pakistan, India, Africa and Europe arrested 236 Africans caught with 528 kgs (1,164 pounds) of heroin last year.

Interpol figures for 1984 show the arrests of only 11 Africans carrying 48 kgs (105 pounds) of heroin in Africa, Asia and Europe.

Traditionally, Southwest Asian nationals smuggled heroin to Europe overland through Iran, Turkey and the Balkan countries. Some was diverted to India and Pakistan and later smuggled to Europe by air or sea.

However, the overland route was disrupted by the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan and the strict anti-narcotics campaign begun by Iran's Islamic leaders after the ouster in 1979 of Shah Mohammad Reza Pahlavi.

With their traditional route blocked, traffickers turned to Africa.

Sri Lankans were first. But by 1984, Africans were not only investing in what a Tanzanian newspaper recently called a "quick and big money business," but also hiring their own couriers.

African governments were caught lacking the know-how to fight the traffickers.

"It was a new crime for them, and they didn't know what to do," said a Western diplomat based in Dar Es Salaam, Tanzania.

Peter Masemo, head of Kenya's anti-narcotics squad, agrees. "At first we didn't know what we were looking for," he said.

In an effort to stop the heroin from reaching their streets, Western governments, especially the United States and Britain, are helping the African nations.

In September, Washington sent Thomas Pickering, its ambassador to the United Nations, to prod Nigerians to reach an agreement under which the United States assist the west African nation's anti-drug effort. The agreement was signed in Washington soon after that.

A month later Britain and Nigeria signed a similar pact.

Interpol figures show the majority of the traffickers are Nigerians, Ghanaians, Tanzanians, Malians and Gambians.

"But no African nation is unaffected by the trafficking of Southwest Asia's heroin," said Joseph Fortier, head of Interpol's drugs sub-division.

The heroin enters Africa by air and sea mainly through eastern countries, with Kenya, Egypt and Ethiopia favoured because of frequent connecting flights to West Africa.

In West Africa, the drug is repackaged and carried by individual couriers or hidden in freight shipments to Western Europe or North America.

Interpol says the smugglers use all major airports in Western Europe. However, an enterprising few have slipped through East bloc airports, including Moscow, East Berlin and Warsaw.

The seriousness of the problem was underlined in June at an Interpol-sponsored, three-day meeting in Nairobi. Narcotics agents from 25 countries in Africa, Asia, Europe and North America attended the closed-door meeting.

"We concluded the situation was increasingly getting worse," said an African participant who declined to be identified further.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Kitty remains hospitalised

Kitty Dukakis remained hospitalised yesterday, recovering from the effects of drinking rubbing alcohol, and there was no word on the date of her release.

Sue Kaplan, a spokeswoman for Governor Michael S. Dukakis, the unsuccessful Democratic presidential candidate, said only that Mrs Dukakis was not due to be released yesterday from Brigham and Women's Hospital.

Mrs Dukakis was taken to the hospital Monday night after drinking what was said to be a small amount of isopropyl alcohol. (AP)

Bakker scrubbing floors

Convicted television evangelist Jim Bakker leads a spartan prison life scrubbing floors and raking leaves as he adjusts to confinement expected to last a minimum of 10 years, prison officials said yesterday.

The 49-year-old Bakker, known for a flamboyant, lavish lifestyle that included several homes and an air-conditioned doghouse, shares a sparsely furnished dormitory-style room with three inmates. (Reuter)

Oral health

In a few decades from now, the role of dentists throughout the world will become that of "oral physicians," experts at the World Health Organisation said in Geneva yesterday.

According to a report being considered by an expert committee of WHO on "educational imperatives for oral health," in the developed countries there has been a steady decline in the number of caries (cavities) in children, adolescents and teenagers.

Moreover, there have been significant improvements in periodontal diseases (of the gum and tissues around teeth) in these countries as they are no longer considered a major tooth-threatening ailment before age 50. (Kuna)

Teachers blockade highways

Striking teachers blockaded the major highways into Mexico City yesterday snarling traffic in the congested capital for the second time in a week.

Thousands of public school teachers dramatised their demand for a democratic union by blocking traffic on highways between Mexico City and Cuernavaca, Toluca and Pachuca for several hours, then marching downtown to the central plaza, the Zocalo.

Teachers from several states participated in the demonstrations, reports said.

The blockade came amid intense internal strife in the huge teachers' union that pits a 10-year-old moderate reform movement against a union beitrachy affiliated with the governing Institutional Revolutionary Party. (AP)

Pope attacks abortion

Pope John Paul II made a new attack on abortion yesterday, calling it a tragedy all Christians must fight.

In a speech to a family counselling group from France, the Roman Catholic leader defended Pope Paul VI's 1968 encyclical "humane vitae" which reaffirmed the church's ban on artificial birth control and abortion.

The Pope said the encyclical "did not have the negative aspect which was attributed to it." (AP)

Wyeth paintings sold

Andrew Wyeth's "Helga" paintings and drawings, sold to an international group of collectors for more than \$40 million, will go on tour in Japan for a year, it was announced yesterday.

Art collector Leonard F. B. Andrews said the works, all of which depict a woman named Helga, will go to Japan in January and be on tour for a year before the new owners take possession.

Peter J. Marcelle, owner of Marcelle Fine Art of New York, which handled the sale to a group of international collectors, said the works sold for between \$40 and \$45 million. But neither he nor Andrews would reveal the exact price. (AP)

Chernobyl toll

More than 80 people have died of radiation sickness following the 1986 disaster at the Chernobyl nuclear power plant in the Ukraine, according to minutes of a Politburo meeting published today.

"So far, cases of serious radiation sickness have been confirmed in 145 people," Vitaly Doguzhiev, a deputy prime minister, was quoted as saying at a November 3 meeting of the party's ruling body.

"Of 59 who survived, 16 are unable to work, while the rest are fit for jobs. No new instances of deaths from radiation sickness have been recorded."

The figures were disclosed in the Communist Party daily Pravda. (Reuter)

Blake's first edition auctioned

A first edition of William Blake's "Songs of Innocence and Experience," printed by the English poet and artist, sold yesterday at auction for \$1.32 million.

An anonymous collector bought the book, which had a pre-sale estimate of \$300,000 to \$400,000, said Laura Stewart, a spokeswoman for Sotheby's auction house.

On Thursday, a set of the first four successive editions of Shakespeare's collected plays sold for \$2 million, a record for what are known as the "Four Folios." Sotheby's said. (AP)

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Papa gets mandate; parties differ on way out

ATHENS, Nov. 11. (AP) — Former Socialist premier Andreas Papandreu received a presidential mandate yesterday to try to form a government, but all three major parties proposed conflicting solutions to the latest political deadlock.

Conservative leader Constantine Mitsotakis returned a three-day mandate to President Christos Sartzetakis earlier yesterday, and proposed a short-term administration to tackle pressing economic problems.

"Our economy is on the verge of collapse... there is a need for a government with international prestige... made up of personalities which will be supported by all parties," he told a press conference.

He said that the government's members should not be politicians and that elections should be held early next year.

Underlining the need for control of the economy, the Central Bank ordered commercial banks to limit credit extended to the private sector, because of a cash shortfall.

The political deadlock arose after Mitsotakis' New Democracy party won the most votes in Sunday's national elections but for the second time in five months missed a majority in the 300-seat Parliament.

New Democracy won 148 seats in the elections, Papandreu's Panhellenic Socialist Movement, or Pasok, took

128, and the communist-led Coalition of the Left and Progress won 21.

Papandreu, who governed from 1981 until June elections, proposed a long-term alliance between Pasok, the leftist coalition, and two independents.

Such an alliance would hold a majority by one seat in Parliament.

The third independent, who

represents members of the Muslim minority in northern Greece, has not been approached by the conservatives or by Pasok.

Papandreu said that the country needed a steady and viable long-term government which could result from the co-operation of "renovative, progressive and democratic forces."

Thais deny sex charge

BANGKOK, Nov. 11. (AP) — The government tourism office has protested a story in a Hong Kong-based magazine, which accused the office of indirectly supporting the huge sex industry that lures numerous tourists to Thailand.

The Nation newspaper reported today that the Tourism Authority of Thailand had asked authorities to ban the Far Eastern Economic Review and to not extend the visa of correspondent Paul Handley, who wrote the article. The Nation's account, quoting an unnamed source, could not be immediately confirmed.

A reporter in the magazine's Bangkok office said Handley had no comment and that the office had received no direct protest from the tourism office or other authorities.

The tourism office's director of public relations, Sumontha Nakornthab, issued a statement quoted yesterday by the government-run Thai News Agency saying that her office had sent letters of protest to Handley and Philip Bowring, the magazine's editor, and to the Thai Foreign Ministry and immigration office.

The article "destroyed the image of Thai tourism," the statement said.

The article, in the weekly magazine's Nov. 2 issue, said the sex trade had become accepted by Thai society and so protected by politicians and others that it could not be threatened by the scare over the deadly Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome or by Thailand's bad image overseas.

It said the tourism office has no direct link to the sex industry, but "it eagerly helps the mainstream tourist guides, who give the sex business as much coverage as they do the floating markets and the famous wats (temples)."

Unesco 'gag' on media

PARIS, Nov. 11. (AP) — A Unesco commission yesterday approved a communication programme for the first half of the 1990s with provisions critics say will restrict press freedom.

The programme breaks some new ground with references to independent media as well as government-run outlets.

Many old code words about protection of journalists and censorship powers are gone. But the programme sets up the media as an adversary of the public, saying the public should be educated to avoid manipulation by the media.

The programme also reiterates the legitimacy of the new world information and communications order, which Western critics regard as a threat to international reporting and news distribution.

Unesco director general Federico Mayor of Spain, who took over as head of the troubled agency two years ago, has been trying to remove references to this order, and take a new direction.

But the 50-nation executive board, dominated by Third World and East bloc nations, watered down Mayor's proposals and resurrected controversies on communications that have been debated since the 1970s at Unesco, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation.

The head of the US observer mission, Richard T. Miller, described the document as ambiguous and complex. He said it would have to be reviewed before any decision on ratification could be made. British observers made similar comments.



Walesa accepts a kiss from a member of the Polish community upon his arrival in Montreal (Reuters wirephoto)

One Europe: aim New guard emerging

MONTREAL, Nov. 11. (AP) — Lech Walesa said yesterday that Europe is witnessing "a new generation" of leadership, with the new guard dedicated to reuniting the divided continent.

The Solidarity leader made his comments to reporters at Mirabel airport as he began a 10-day visit to Canada and the United States. During the visit, he will travel to New York, Philadelphia and Chicago.

Airport onlookers cheered the shipyard electrician who spearheaded Solidarity's successful challenge to Poland's communist leadership.

Walesa rejected suggestions that he had been the catalyst for the changes now occurring in Eastern Europe.

"Everyone is responsible, the media, the television, everybody," Walesa said. "A new generation is taking over. We want one unified Europe."

Earlier in Warsaw, Walesa told the Polish news agency PAP the changes in East Germany, which include relaxing travel restrictions, the promise of democratic elections and the resignations of longtime communist leader Erich Honecker and his ruling politburo, "should have been taken much earlier."

"The drama of the events in East Germany is the result of earlier neglect, as usually happens when someone misses the train of history," he said.

Change, but Sofia to stay course

SOFIA, Nov. 11. (AP) — Todor Zhivkov, the longest-serving leader in the Soviet bloc, has stepped down but his successor says there is a long struggle ahead to remove other members of the old guard.

But Petar Mladenov, while promising freedom of information and other changes, also made clear that Bulgaria will not follow the example of some other bloc nations by veering away from communism.

Zhivkov stepped down yesterday after 35 years at the helm of one of the Kremlin's most loyal allies. He resigned from his positions as Communist Party leader and member of the ruling politburo and asked to be removed as president of the state council, the official news agency BTA reported.

Foreign Minister Mladenov replaced Zhivkov as the party head and a new head of state is to be elected next week by the National Assembly, Bulgaria's Parliament.

Zhivkov's departure leaves Romania's dictatorial President Ceausescu the only leader of the Soviet bloc's old guard following tumultuous changes in the bloc over the past two years.

While Zhivkov's departure has been rumoured for about two years, the decision to install Mladenov was made at a secret session of the ruling politburo which met during the night, a well-informed source told the Associated Press.

To get rid of some of the party stalwarts resisting change is likely to require considerable energy, and Mladenov, described by one Western diplomat as a middle-of-the-road communist, told a session of the party's policy-setting central committee that "the struggle will be very severe."

All decisions and political developments may occur "only within the framework of socialism and on the road of socialism," Mladenov said in his inaugural speech, making clear that Bulgarian communists will not consider sharing power.

The top-level change in Sofia took place in the shadow of the extraordinary events in East Germany, where the new leadership of Egon Krenz late Thursday threw open its long-closed borders.

A gauge of the extent of political change the new Bulgarian party chief is prepared to undertake may be provided by three special congresses on science, culture, and education scheduled to take place Feb 15-17.

"For years, we have not been able to understand that the existing administrative system not only delayed things but hampered progress in our society in all spheres," Mladenov told the meeting, according to excerpts carried by Bulgarian state TV.

He also said, "we have to turn Bulgaria into a contemporary democratic and law-abiding country," pledging to provide "freedom of all information."

"We should not worry nor should we be scared by the fact that at seeking... right solutions there can and surely will be pluralism in the opinions," Mladenov said.

He made a promise of legislation governing human rights, but it was not immediately clear what impact this will have on the dozen or so small independent groups seeking official recognition.

The Supreme Court in Sofia is scheduled to rule on Monday on whether to register eco-activists, a fast growing environmentalist group, as an official organisation.

In Turkey, which is in dispute with Sofia over Bulgaria's treatment of its ethnic Turkish minority, reacted cautiously to yesterday's resignation of Communist Party chief Todor Zhivkov.

"We find it too early to make an assessment of the change of power in Bulgaria at this stage," a brief Foreign Ministry statement said. "It is, above all, an internal matter of this country."

Giant hallstones

MBABANE, Nov. 11. (Reuters) — Hallstones the size of tennis balls hit Swaziland's capital yesterday, injuring pedestrians, damaging cars and smashing windows, officials said.

Heseltine in front

LONDON, Nov. 11. (AP) — Almost four years after he stomped out of a cabinet meeting and resigned from Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's government, Michael Heseltine remains the politician viewed as most likely to succeed her.

Despite her tumbling rating in opinion polls, Thatcher shows no signs of slowing down after 10 years in power, and says she hopes to lead the conservatives into one more general election before retiring.

But at 56 years of age and with a huge personal fortune, Heseltine can afford to wait.

Opinion polls consistently put Heseltine out front to replace Thatcher as Conservative leader, ahead of other main contenders, Deputy Prime Minister Sir Geoffrey Howe or party chairman Kenneth Baker.

Also in the field is the new Chancellor of the Exchequer, 46-year-old John Major, whose meteoric rise has taken him through three top cabinet posts since July.

A national opinion poll conducted for the Mail today said 31 per cent of 1,043 voters questioned believe Heseltine would be the best person to succeed Thatcher.

The owl-like Howe, dumped this summer from the high-profile job as Foreign Secretary, was a distant second with 17 per cent. Despite his bland public persona, Howe, 63, is witty in private and is one of the few people who can talk Thatcher out of doing something she is set on.

British Broadcasting Corp. television surveyed Conservative lawmakers and found that if Thatcher were to go, 22 per cent would like Heseltine to succeed her.

Baker, 55, came next with 14 per cent. The former education

To run for Parliament seat Coe wins a race

LONDON, Nov. 11. (Agencies) — British Olympic gold medalist Sebastian Coe appears to have won a race to become the ruling Conservative Party's candidate for a seat in Parliament at the next general election.

The 32-year-old track star beat two short-listed rivals to be selected last night at a meeting in Falmouth, in the southwest England region of Cornwall.

The choice still has to be approved formally by a meeting of the party's constituency association, but constituency chairwoman Anne Peck said: "We feel that he has the charisma to win the next election for us."

Coe was among 36 applicants to succeed David Mudd, who has held the seat for the Conservatives since 1970.

Coe beat two other candidates — William Rogers, a Conservative local council leader, and Philip Treleavan, a computer specialist at London University.

Mudd, 56, has announced that he will continue as a Commons legislator only until the next general election and will then retire and will not contest that election.

minister is smooth, experienced politician, well-liked by Thatcher and now in a high-profile job.

Heseltine, meanwhile, has a packed calendar. With his lean six-foot-three frame and movie-star good looks, he is in big demand as a public speaker.

He speaks with a slight lisp, suffers from dyslexia, oozes personal charm and, despite the years out of office, ranks among Britain's half dozen best-known politicians.

His thick mane of blond hair and sometimes swashbuckling escapades earned him the nickname, "Tarzan." He once swung the House of Commons' ceremonial mace around his head.

Other members of Parliament — who will eventually select Thatcher's replacement — in particular want him to speak to

2 dead, 11 wounded in LA gang fight

LOS ANGELES, Nov. 11. (UPI) — Two men were killed and at least 11 others were wounded in gang-related shootings at the start of the weekend, including two attacks that left one dead and seven wounded, authorities said today.



One man was killed and two others were slightly wounded in a drive-by shooting in the Silverlake district shortly before 1 a.m. today, Sgt. Martin Minue said.

One man who was wounded in the attack died at Queen of Angels-Hollywood Presbyterian Medical

Centre. Two others were treated for minor gunshot wounds and released. The attack was apparently gang-related, Minue said.

Two related attacks in the El Sereno area east of downtown last night left one man dead and seven people wounded, three of them critically, Lt. Jim Murphy said.

Five people were wounded, one critically, in a drive-by shooting in El Sereno last evening, Murphy said.



YUGOSLAV WEEK

KUWAIT, 11-16 NOVEMBER 1989

Kuwait Regency Palace

PROGRAMME

Saturday: November 11, At 12 noon Press Conference	Monday: November 13 At 10 a.m. Civil Engineering Presented by: 1. AEROENGINEERING Belgrade 2. ALUMINA - Skopje 3. CIP - Belgrade 4. GRADIS - Ljubljana 5. TRUDBENIK - Belgrade 6. UNION ENGINEERING - Belgrade
Saturday: November 11, At 6 p.m. Opening Ceremony - By Invitation Only	Monday: November 13, At 8 p.m. Piano Concert Kemal Gekic, Yugoslavia
Sunday: November 12, Until Thursday November 16, Yugoslav Trade Exhibition Hours: 9-12 a.m. And 4.30-8.30 p.m.	Saturday: 11 - Monday 13 November At 8.30 p.m. Fashion Show
Sunday: November 12 At 10 a.m. Foreign Investment in Yugoslavia. Presented by: Mr. Vlada Miljatic - Yugoslav Chamber of Economy Mrs. Borica Vucic - Beobanka-Belgrade	

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Hundreds of East Germans stream through the newly opened border crossing point at Eberswalder street. (Reuters wirephoto)



East Berlin border guards stand atop the Berlin Wall and hose down demonstrators trying to knock the wall down. (Reuters wirephoto)



A West Berlin demonstrator holds a West German flag as his comrades pull down a section of the Berlin Wall. (Reuters wirephoto)

US applauds events in East, but cautious

Tass hails 'destruction' of Berlin Wall

DALLAS, Nov 11, (Agencies): President George Bush is looking with "encouragement and hope" at the dramatic events in East Germany, offering help to West Germany in coping with thousands of refugees but reacting with restraint to the opening of the Berlin Wall.

Bush said he would act with prudence and imagination to the rapid developments in communist East Germany. But he promised no specific action and Secretary of State James A. Baker ruled out substantial Western aid for the country until "there is political pluralism across the board."

The President was watching the events from a speechmaking tour in

Texas, where he was helping dedicate the Texas Vietnam veterans memorial today before returning to Washington.

"We live in exciting times. The rapidity of change is mind-boggling. I will do my level best to conduct an imaginative foreign policy, but I will be prudent," Bush said at a dinner last night for Texas Gov. Bill Clements.

"We all look with hope in our hearts at the amazing developments in Eastern Europe, indeed in Soviet Union itself, with encouragement and hope," Bush said.

US officials travelling with the President said the administration had "nothing concrete right now" to offer East Germany as the events unfold.

"We're trying to sort out what's going on right now," said the official, who spoke on condition of anonymity.

The United States warned the Soviet Union that the use of force in eastern Europe would be a serious setback for improving US-Soviet relations, a US official said in a newspaper interview published today.

Baker was quoted by the Washington Post as saying, "We've raised the issue with the Soviets. We've made known to them the problems it would create in the relationship...if there was backsliding and the use of repressive force, we would have to be responsive."

The newspaper said Baker declined to specify what measures the United States would take.

Bush's remarks yesterday were more impassioned than his somewhat subdued reaction to East Germany's action lifting travel restrictions a day earlier. But he and other officials tempered their comments by saying the situation remains turbulent.

Bush said West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl called him yesterday to discuss the developments in East Germany. Kohl raced home from a politically sensitive trip to Poland as thousands of East Germans poured through checkpoints in the Berlin Wall to West Germany.

Kohl "asked me to share with the American people his conviction...that this remarkable change that is taking place in eastern Europe, most recently in the German Democratic Republic, could never have taken place without the steadfast loyal support of the United States of America."

In Washington, Baker suggested the administration would continue to react cautiously, while making clear "we are extraordinarily happy about" the opening of East Germany's borders.

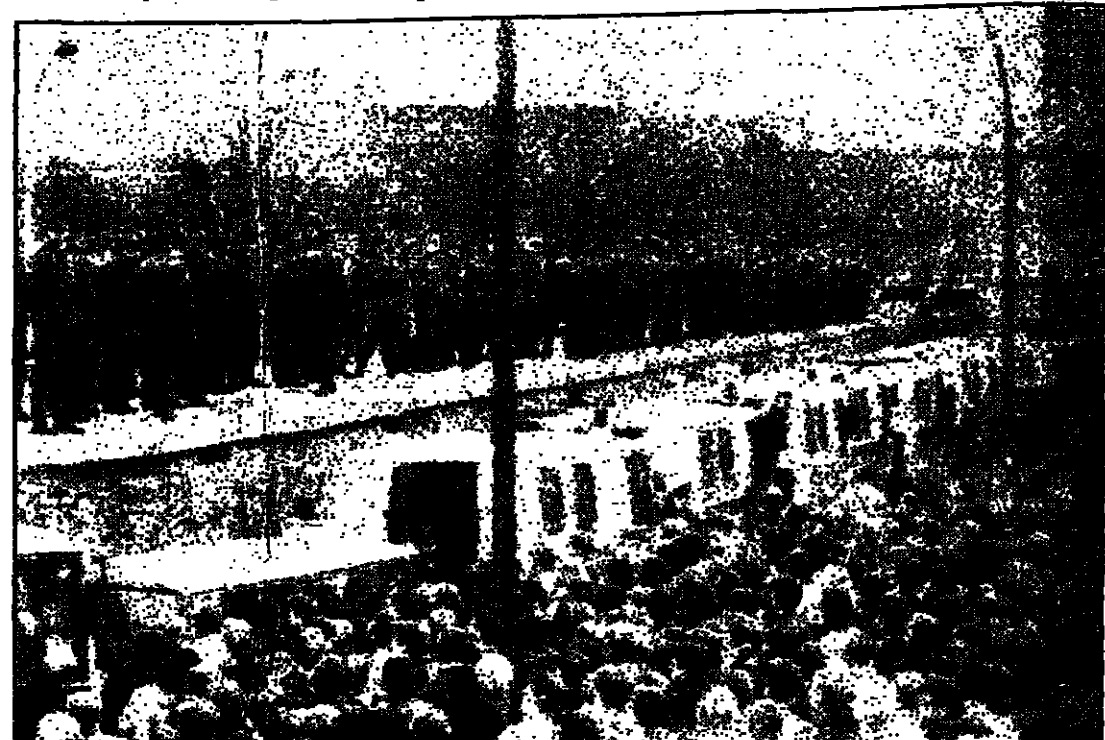
"It is important to demonstrate that we do not seek to take unilateral advantage of these circumstances," Baker said on public television. "That is not in the best interests of the West."

The official Soviet news agency Tass today hailed the "virtual destruction" of the Berlin Wall as a positive and important event.

Tass said it was "perfectly obvious" that the Soviet Union supported the steps taken by East Germany's leaders, who on Thursday threw open the country's borders and the Berlin Wall.

"After all, they are moves which will facilitate the construction of the common European home," the commentary said adopting a phrase coined by President Mikhail Gorbachev.

Poland said yesterday Europe needed guarantees that a reunified, powerful new state of Germany would not threaten the continent's security.



Hundreds of East Berlin guards stand atop the Berlin Wall faced by thousands of West Berliners. West German police vehicles separate both groups. (Reuters wirephoto)



West Berliners use sledge hammers to pound against the Berlin Wall. (Reuters wirephoto)



Kohl: talks

Million surge through Wall

(Continued from Page 1)

Charlie. "They'll have to do better or people will get bitter all over again."

West German Economics Minister Helmut Haussmann said East Germans would have to make sacrifices if they wanted to reform their economy.

Drawing a comparison with the years after World War Two in which West Germany began its economic recovery, Haussmann said:

"It means some time of sacrifice, for which people in Poland and other countries, for example, are being prepared. The time dimension is underestimated."

Kohl, speaking at a news conference following a cabinet meeting and prior to resuming an interrupted visit to Warsaw, said East Germany must make permanent its decision to allow its citizens to travel freely.

Kohl said East Germans must also be guaranteed five other

basic rights: freedom of expression, a free press, the right to establish trade unions, the right to create independent political parties and free and fair elections by secret ballot.

The West German leader said his chief of staff, Rudolf Seiters, would travel to East Berlin on Monday to meet with Krenz and new East German Premier Hans Modrow.

"We want in these talks to find out about concrete steps being planned by the East German leadership, and above all about how it intends to conduct free elections and in what kind of time frame," Kohl said.

He and Krenz agreed in their telephone conversation "to remain in constant contact" and then meet soon in person, he said.

"I told him emphatically that the talks will also involve how material living conditions can be improved for East Germans so that they feel well where they are and don't want to leave," Kohl said.

"But aid measures can only be

successful if the state economic planning system is replaced by a socially-committed market economy," Kohl said. "Only in that way can the East German economy be strengthened."

President George Bush has received personal word from Mikhail Gorbachev that the Soviet leader backs the opening of East Germany's borders, but Bush conceded, in an interview published today, his concern that the stunning changes could lead to instability in Europe.

Bush was undoubtedly buoyed by a cable in which the White House says Gorbachev "expressed his support for the decisions being taken by the new East German leadership."

Earlier today, East Germans began streaming through a newly created crossing in the Bernauer Strasse section of the Berlin Wall. It was first time a section of the wall has been torn down.

A hydraulic crane lifted the first panel from that section of the Wall at 6.03 am (0503 GMT).

Moldavian leaders asked to quit 129 injured in riots

MOSCOW, Nov 11, (Agencies): Thousands of rock-throwing protesters clashed with police in the Moldavian capital of Kishinev, leaving 129 injured and fueling demands that the republic's leaders resign. Tass reported today.

Moldavia, a republic of 4.3 million on the border with Romania, has been the scene of continued unrest this year.

The official Soviet news agency said a crowd of about 6,000, demanding the release of protesters arrested earlier, tried to storm the headquarters of the southern republic's Interior Ministry late last night.

Protesters pelted police with stones, sticks and bottles, then set up street barricades and threw torches and bottles of flammable liquid at the ministry building. Tass reported, citing the Moldavian news agency Atem.

Police fought back with truncheons and water hoses, then fired warning shots and tear-gas, the official news agency said.

Vladimir Solonski, a history lecturer at Kishinev state university, said in a telephone interview that he saw the crowd turn over an ambulance in downtown Kishinev. Tass said the protesters also torched a police car.

Thirty people were arrested, but released "in accordance with demands from the crowd," Tass

said. It said about 83 people and 46 protesters were injured.

As midnight approached, the protesters withdrew to a nearby square, where they rallied and demanded the resignation of the republic's government and communist party leaders, Tass reported.

Witnesses to last night's events said many of the protesters were members of the Moldavian People's Front, a grassroots group pushing for greater independence from Moscow and preservation of the indigenous language and culture.

A Kishinev resident contacted by telephone said word was out in the city that the People's Front had called a mass meeting for tomorrow and would push its demands for the government to be removed. The protesters were demanding the release of about 20 people arrested on Tuesday as they gathered at a monument to a national hero near the route of parade. Activists said police beat people in the crowd.

Authorities in Moldavia held a hastily convened meeting today to consider their next move.

The ruling bureau of the central committee of the Moldavian Communist Party was debating yesterday's clashes, journalists and nationalist activists by telephone from the republic's capital, Kishinev.

Seoul police storm college

SEOUL, Nov 11, (Agencies): About 3,000 riot police backed by armoured vans firing tear-gas stormed a college campus today to stop a protest by students calling for the overthrow of President Roh Tae-Woo.

Police streamed onto the sprawling campus of Korea University in eastern Seoul, as six armoured vans with multiple launchers fired volleys of choking tear-gas.

Students counter-attacked with firebombs and rocks, and the two sides fought for more than five hours in running clashes.

Several dozen students and police officers were hurt, most injured by flying rocks, but police officials said they had no precise figures on injuries or arrests.

Police moved onto the campus to stop about 1,000 students and dissidents from holding a rally to call for the overthrow of the Roh government. Hundreds of riot police had surrounded the campus during the night.

During the fighting, the students yelled, "Down with Roh Tae-Woo" and "overthrow the dictatorship."

Police stopped and questioned students trying to enter the campus and some students were being taken away for questioning.

The attack on the campus was unusual since police normally do not attempt to halt protests inside school grounds. But police commanders were ordered to take tough measures to crack down on anti-government radicals.

About 1,000 riot police were stationed around Dongkuk University in central Seoul today to prevent students from assembling there for a planned rally.

The government also banned a rally planned for tomorrow by militant labour unions calling for better pay and conditions for industrial workers.

Labour leaders said they would try to hold the event in spite of the police ban and predicted up to 20,000 workers would attend the protest. Riot police were expected to try to block any gathering.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Crohn's disease: The number of children suffering in the UK from Crohn's disease, an incurable bowel disorder, has almost tripled in the last 20 years, according to a study published yesterday.

There are about 30 new cases diagnosed each year in British children under 16 compared with 10 cases a year in the 1960s, the research by a team of professors at Edinburgh University, Scotland, showed.

Crohn's disease causes inflammation and ulceration of the bowel and the digestive tract, the British media, which highlighted the study, said. The symptoms include pain, nausea and vomiting, diarrhoea and constipation. (KUNA)

Bomb explosion: A bomb exploded outside the military airport near Belfast yesterday, but police reported no damage or injuries.

The Royal Ulster Constabulary said a package placed in the road exploded near an abandoned vehicle outside the Aldergrove Royal Air Force Base in county Antrim, about 5 miles (8 kms) west of the civilian airport.

The area was sealed off and police were conducting an investigation, a police spokesman said, speaking anonymously. (AP)

Briton to release on bail: A Briton arrested last month for carrying uranium will be released on bail after radiation tests showed the sample was harmless, his lawyer said Friday.

Derek Smith, 41, from Leeds in northern England, was remanded in custody Oct 12 when he asked the Democritus Nuclear Research Centre in Athens to analyse the uranium, which he was carrying in a plastic shopping bag.

"The (uranium 238) ore my client was carrying did not expose the public to hazardous radiation," said lawyer Nikos Galeas in a telephone interview.

Smith, who told authorities he has been living in Greece for 16 months, will be released Monday on bail of 200,000 drachmas (\$1,176). (AP)

AIDS conference: Vatican officials said today they hoped the Roman Catholic church's ban on the use of condoms would not dominate the church's first conference on AIDS.

"If the conference concentrated on the issue of condoms it would make banal the tragic subject of AIDS," said Bishop Fiorenzo Angelini, one of the organisers of the meeting.

Pope John Paul will make his first major address on the killer disease at the three-day international conference which begins on Monday. (Reuters)

Soviets accuse US: The Soviets on Friday attacked US officials for "seeking to poison the atmosphere" of upcoming superpower talks by accusing Soviet ships in the Pacific of shooting lasers at US military aircraft.

Foreign Ministry spokesman Gennady Gerasimov told a news briefing the US allegations were timed to sour President Mikhail S. Gorbachev's summit with US President George Bush, to be held next month on ships in the Mediterranean sea off Malta. (AP)

5 killed in train accident: Five people were killed and more than 50 were injured in Czechoslovakia when the Baltorient Express rumbled into a standing passenger train shortly after midnight, the official CTK news agency reported Friday.

The northbound Baltorient Express was en route from Prague to East Germany when the two trains crashed near Nove Kopisty some 70 kms (45 miles) north of Prague, CTK said.

One of the five dead was an East German citizen, CTK said, but it did not give the nationalities of any of the other dead or injured. (AP)

Hungary orders retrial: A prosecutor has ordered a re-examination of the case of Cardinal Jozsef Mindszenty, one of the cold war's most famous victims, sparking hopes for his posthumous rehabilitation, the MTI news agency said.

The reform movement sweeping Hungary already has led to the crackdown of the pro-democracy movement in June, said Friday the posthumous rehabilitation of Imre Nagy, leader of the Hungarian anti-Soviet uprising in 1956.

Authorities have finished dismantling the electronic warning system on the Hungarian-Austrian border, completing the act which marked the first breach in the iron curtain six months ago, the official Hungarian news agency MTI reported Friday.

Deng, 85, gave up the chairmanship of the Communist Party's Central Military Commission on Thursday. He was replaced by Jiang Zemin, Communist Party chief. (AP)

Deng's resignation: Chinese exiles, who fled China after the crackdown of the pro-democracy movement in June, said Friday that international disgraces following the Tiananmen Square massacre forced Chinese leader Deng Xiaoping to resign.

Deng, 85, gave up the chairmanship of the Communist Party's Central Military Commission on Thursday. He was replaced by Jiang Zemin, Communist Party chief. (AP)

Serbian throws challenge

BELGRADE, Nov 11, (Reuters): Controversial Serbian leader Slobodan Milosevic, suspected of wanting to rule over the whole of Yugoslavia, said today he would quit politics if he lost Serbia's first presidential election since the communists came to power 44 years ago.

"I am not a professional politician. And what is more logical than that a man returns to what he's professionally able to do when his political function ends," Milosevic, a former banker, told Reuters in an interview.

The northwestern republics of Slovenia and Croatia have accused Milosevic of wanting to replace late Yugoslav leader Josip Broz Tito who ruled the country unchallenged for 35 years.

"I do not want to replace Tito," he said. He rejected accusations that he wanted to take advantage of the fact there were 2.5 million Serbs in the neighbouring republics of Croatia and Bosnia to impose himself as a strongman.

"Serbia is not indifferent towards the destiny of Serbs outside Serbia, but I honestly believe that we shall solve these questions, legally and justly, within Yugoslavia," he said.

Alternative groups and intellectuals have called for a boycott of Sunday's elections because only communist candidates have been allowed to stand, unlike in Slovenia which plans to hold multi-party elections next March.

"It is true that we haven't yet freed ourselves completely of the old electoral system," Milosevic said.

But he was convinced the shortcomings would be corrected in future changes to the constitution. "Never again in the future of Serbia will a candidate who does not enjoy the trust of the majority of the population be elected to the post of president," he added.

Milosevic faces three opponents in the direct secret ballot. His opponents, Zoran Djindjic, a university professor, Mihail Kertes and Miroslav Djordjevic, all members of the Serbian leadership, are unlikely to attract many votes from the seven million ballots.

"In a democratic society anyone can lose," Milosevic said. Few people expect him to lose Sunday's elections but he is unlikely to draw a strong vote among the 1.7 million ethnic Albanians in Serbia's autonomous Kosovo province.

Bring laws in line, Kremlin tells four restive republics

MOSCOW, Nov 11, (AP): The Kremlin has declared that local laws passed by four restive Soviet republics are unconstitutional, state-run news media reported today.

The Presidium of the Supreme Soviet legislature declared that laws in Azerbaijan and the Baltic republics of Latvia, Lithuania and Estonia "cannot have force on the territory of the republics, because they contradict the provisions of the national constitution," the official Tass news agency reported.

The Presidium did not specify which laws were unconstitutional. But the four republics' parliaments have all passed laws declaring their "sovereignty," meaning they had the right to declare that laws passed in Moscow were invalid locally.

The Estonian parliament already had run

afoul of the Kremlin twice with controversial laws, but the legislative conflicts have never led to showdowns.

Estonian lawmakers held fast to their sovereignty law late last year despite Kremlin objections, and the issue was never forced. This summer, the Estonian parliament backed down on a voting law that set residency requirements and led to strikes among Russian workers in the

republic who complained many of them would lose the right to vote.

All four of the republics have popular movements that are pushing for greater independence from Moscow.

Tass said the Presidium cited Article 74 of the Soviet constitution, which states that when there is a conflict between national law and a republic's law, the national law prevails.

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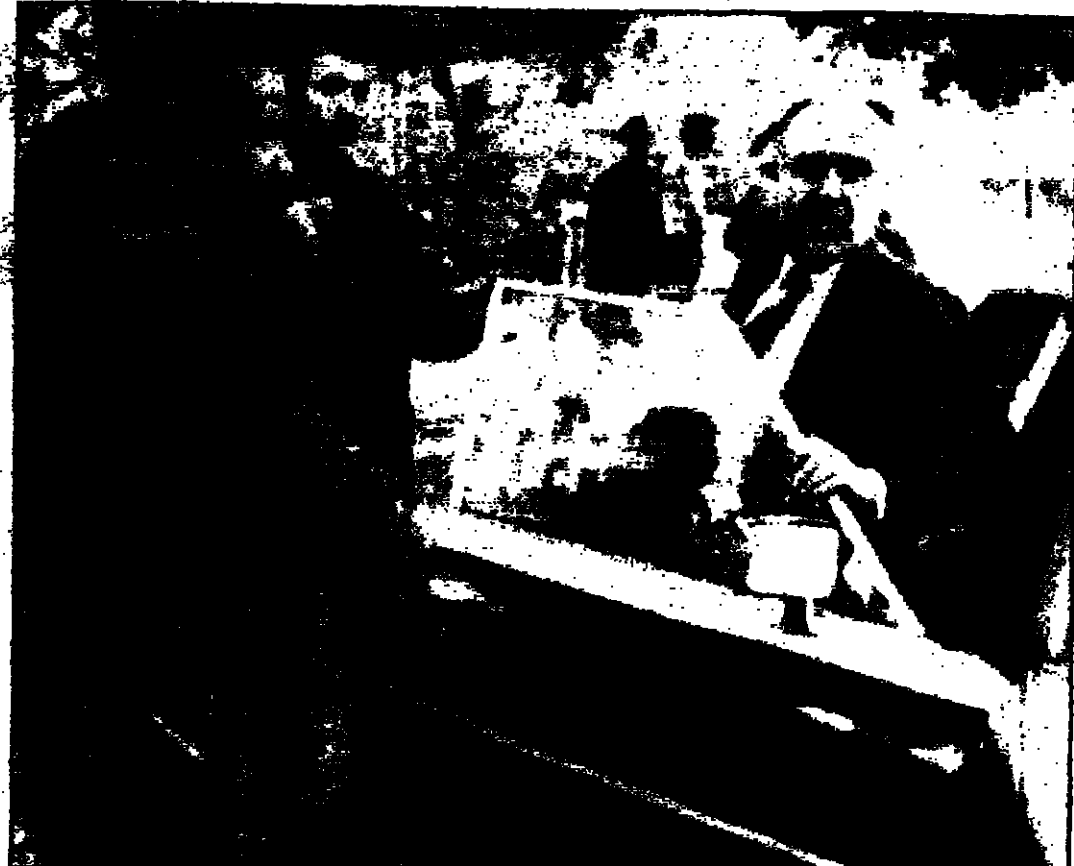
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Christian deputy George Saadeh, the head of the Phalangist Party and the Lebanese Front, guarded by two militiamen as he returned to his village Shebin in north Lebanon after Aoun refused to allow the Christian deputies who agreed on the Taif peace accord to enter East Beirut. (Reuters wirephoto)

Lebanon govt not yet CB freezes payments

BEIRUT, Nov 11, (AP): A week after his election as leader of Lebanon, Christian moderate Rene Muawad remains a leader without a government despite intensive efforts to draw his feuding countrymen into a coalition cabinet.

Muawad is struggling to put together a cabinet of national reconciliation in the face of intense Christian opposition led by the army commander Michel Aoun.

Political sources said today they expected Muawad to delay naming his team for at least one more day.

In a move aimed at consolidating Muawad's grip on power, the Central Bank said it would deal exclusively with the new administration once it was formed.

Until Muawad's election, the bank had been providing both Aoun's administration and a rival Syrian-backed Muslim cabinet with funds.

In a move to undermine the decision the bank, which is in Muslim West Beirut, turned down a request by Aoun's interim military cabinet for a loan to buy fuel oil for power stations.

Central Bank sources said Governor Edmond Naim had decided to freeze all but essential payments until a new government was formed.

Muawad, whose election has been hailed by most of the world but who is reviled in the Christian heartland of East Beirut, has so

far failed to induce the second strongest force in the Christian camp to change sides and support him, political sources said. They said Syrian-backed Muawad sought to draw Samir Geagea, head of the 10,000-member Lebanese Forces (LF) militia, into his cabinet along with Muslim militia chiefs.

But the sources said Aoun had managed to consolidate his alliance with the LF. The militia armed with tanks and artillery controls the north of the Christian enclave including the only port of entry at Jounieh.

Geagea had several lengthy meetings with Aoun following Muawad's election in north Lebanon close to the Syrian border last Sunday. He has said nothing publicly about his intentions.

Dany Chamoun, influential Christian leader of the National Liberal Party, told Reuters yesterday it was out of the question that either he or Geagea would join Muawad.

Kuwait's Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed today said he was optimistic that Lebanon's new President would succeed in his contacts to restore peace to his country and revive the constitutional body.

Sheikh Sabah, in a statement to reporters, stressed, however, that the Lebanese themselves must support the efforts aimed at restoring stability and security to their country.

Referring to the Arab-brokered peace plan which has won

international support, the Kuwaiti official said the Lebanese people will have to show their "optimism" about the new developments at home.

Saudi Arabian monarch King Fahd Bin Abdul Aziz said the kingdom would do whatever was needed to reconstruct Lebanon.

"Saudi Arabia is ready to do whatever is required to help reconstruct Lebanon," the King was quoted as saying in an interview with Okaz newspaper published today.

He said he was confident the feuding sides in Lebanon would be reconciled.

"Differences of opinion are natural... but reconciliation has become a fact now and no one has lost the bet on Lebanon."

"What has happened until now... proves that every step was taken in the right place and time and took into consideration the sensitivities of the situation," the paper quoted the King as saying.

George Saadeh, a leading Christian parliamentarian and head of the right-wing Phalangist Party, defended today a peace accord worked out with Muslim legislators.

His remarks underscored a split in Christian ranks that widened after the formal ratification of the accord and the election of Muawad.

Saadeh spoke from his home village of Shabine, on the northern edge of the Christian heartland, in an interview broadcast by his party's radio station, Voice of Lebanon.

Hostage issue on front burner

BEIRUT, Nov 11, (AP): A weekly magazine reported yesterday that behind-the-scenes discussions about the release of the 18 Western hostages were heating up. Ash Shiraa, in an uncorroborated report, said this week's release of Iranian assets by the United States at the same time Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati was in Algeria indicated the issue was once again on the front burner.

"It is known that the issue of foreign hostages in Lebanon has been put on the front burner and developments could come up concerning the release of some of the hostages very soon," the magazine said

in a two-paragraph story. It has made similar predictions regularly since November 1987, when it broke the story of the United States trading arms with Iran in exchange for hostage releases. None of its recent hostage reports have been accurate.

Algeria was the main mediator in the negotiations that led to the release of 52 Americans in January 1981 after they were held hostage in the US embassy in Tehran for 444 days.

The official Islamic Republic News Agency had said the purpose of Velayati's

3-day trip this week to Algeria was to discuss bilateral relations. The US released about \$570 million to Iran this week, as part of a decision by the court in the Netherlands arbitrating financial claims between the two countries. President George Bush said on Tuesday he hoped the US decision to return the assets will prompt Iran to obtain freedom for American hostages.

But administration officials insisted the transfer of the money was unrelated to the hostage issue. The hostages include eight Americans, four Britons, two Swiss, two West Germans, an Irishman and an

Italian. Rafsanjani, leader of the so-called pragmatists in Iran, told a news conference last month that Iran would help secure the release of the captives if Washington unblocks Iranian assets. Iranian officials said this week the money released could not be considered goodwill since it stemmed from the court decisions.

Iran says the assets frozen a decade ago when the embassy was stormed are now worth \$12 billion, including the value of weapons purchased before the 1979 Islamic revolution but never delivered.

Blasts rock 3 Turkey cities

ANKARA, Nov 11, (AP): Explosions shattered windows at 24 buildings in the country's three biggest cities late last night, and a leftist group said it planted the bombs to protest the new presidency of former Prime Minister Turgut Ozal.

Police said no one was hurt in the blasts, which came the day after Ozal was inaugurated as president and quickly nominated loyal supporter Yilmaz Akbulut for prime minister.

Meanwhile, Akbulut presented his government programme yesterday, promising to continue Ozal's free-market policies at a parliament session marred by an opposition walkout.

Police said three blasts shattered windows at bank offices in Ankara, the capital, while another explosion at a shop serving the US community in the Aegean coastal city of Izmir caused little damage.

Another 20 bombs exploded at bank offices, business centres and a gas station in Istanbul, causing minor damage, the police said.

All the blasts occurred between 9 pm and 10 pm (1900 and 2000 GMT).

After the explosions, several Turkish newspapers received calls from the leftist underground organization Dev-Sol (revolutionary left) claiming responsibility for the attacks and saying they were to protest Ozal's presidency.

As premier, Ozal pushed free-market, pro-business policies that boosted Turkey's economy. But the country now is grappling with annual inflation of 75 per cent and rising unemployment.

His inauguration ceremony in parliament was boycotted Thursday by all opposition parties, which accuse him of nepotism and corruption in government ranks. Because of these problems, they say Ozal does not have the clear mandate necessary for the presidency.

Political analysts say the surprise choice of Akbulut for premier would let Ozal control the government through a close political ally, even though the Turkish constitution forbids the president from behaving in a partisan manner.

In parliament yesterday, legislators from the opposition Social Democrat Populist Party and the centrist True Path Party threw copies of the new programme at the desks of governing Motherland Party deputies before walking out as Akbulut took the podium.

A vote of confidence on the new government will be taken Wednesday in parliament, where the Motherland commands a 283-seat majority out of 450.

Akbulut, a 54-year-old lawyer known as a moderate in the party, said his government's policies would be based on a free-market economy.

Politically and culturally, the government would follow a conservative and nationalist line with the goal of achieving social equality, he said.

The government would continue to liberalize trade, promote exports and tourism, and battle inflation by reducing the public deficit, he told legislators.

Akbulut also said the government intends to lower Turkey's foreign debt, currently at \$35.2 billion, and encourage foreign investment.

Ozal took over from 1980 military commander Kenan Evren, whose seven-year term expired. Presidents in Turkey cannot be re-elected.

Cairo peace talks, PLO won't object

Egypt, US considering non-PLO team

CAIRO, Nov 11, (Agencies): A senior PLO official said yesterday the PLO would not object to holding peace talks in Cairo between Palestinians and Israelis as long as these led to an international peace conference.

However he did not say who should be represented at the Cairo meeting, a major sticking point in a five-point plan proposed by US Secretary of State James Baker to hold the first formal face-to-face Palestinian-Israeli talks.

"The PLO has no objection to convening a dialogue in Cairo between Palestinians and Israelis on the condition that it will lead to the convening of an international peace conference," PLO executive committee member Jamal Al Sourani told reporters.

Israel has said it accepts the Baker plan as long as the Palestinian delegation does not include any members of the PLO. The PLO says it must have the final say on any delegation.

Sourani came to Cairo yesterday to present a list of PLO questions to Egypt — the main mediator between the PLO and Washington — on the Baker plan.

"I came up on behalf of the PLO leadership to ask for clarifications about the Baker plan," Sourani told reporters after meeting Egyptian Foreign Minister Emad Abdel-Maguid.

PLO is seeking clarifications from the United States on its Middle East peace plan, Palestinian sources in Cairo disclosed yesterday.

Sourani, handed the requested clarifications to Abdel-Maguid during their meeting.

Following the meeting, Sourani only said that he delivered the demanded clarifications to Abdel-Maguid but did not elaborate further.

Abdel-Maguid confirmed he received the clarifications for relay to Washington but did not go into details.

Foreign Ministry officials said later that Abdel-Maguid telephoned Baker and informed him of the "latest PLO stand." The officials were apparently referring to the PLO request for clarifications.

Egypt and the United States are considering the formation of a Palestinian team of non-PLO members for direct talks with Israel, Egyptian political sources said today.

They said the PLO was likely to accept the idea as an initial stage for talks with Israel to break a deadlock in Middle East peace efforts.

Under the plan, Egypt would choose Palestinians from the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip for the talks in Cairo. The sources said, however, the selected team would include Palestinians sympathetic to the PLO.

A delegation of European foreign ministers from France, Spain and Ireland arrived today for talks with PLO leader Yasser Arafat expected to focus on a French proposal for a conference of European and Arab states to be held in Paris by the end of the year, officials said.

French Foreign Minister Roland Dumas led the "troika" delegation, which also was meeting with Arab League Secretary General Chadi Klibi in Tunis.

The meeting with Klibi and Arafat are designed to explore possibilities of speeding up the Middle East peace process.

Masked Palestinians today hacked to death a Gaza Strip Arab suspected of collaborating with Israeli authorities, Palestinian sources said.

Samir Asana, 37, was attacked by men armed with knives and axes in his home in the Rafah refugee camp, the sources said.

Underground Palestinian leaders say they plan children's marches, fireworks and strikes in the Israeli-occupied territories to mark the anniversary next week of the PLO's declaration of a Palestinian state.

The PLO did not give names. "The PLO would closely follow the Cairo meeting and see what it leads to as a test of Israeli intentions," one source said.

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MIDEAST BRIEFS

Commemoration

ANKARA, Nov 11, (AP): The Iranian embassy flew its flag at half-staff yesterday to commemorate the 51st anniversary of the death of Kemal Ataturk, founder of the modern and secular Turkish republic.

It was the first time in four years that Iran had abided by the diplomatic tradition.

Visiting Iranian dignitaries have also refused in the past to pay the traditional visit to Ataturk's tomb for wreath-laying ceremonies.

Iran 'regrets'

NICOSIA, Nov 11, (AP): Iran's Foreign Ministry today expressed "regret" for an attack by about 20 Iranians on the Dutch embassy in Tehran two days ago, the official Islamic Republic News Agency reported.

The agency, monitored in Nicosia, said ministry officials apologised for the Thursday night incident to Dutch chargé d'affaires Hugo van Der Goes van Mantsma at a meeting in Tehran today.

The Dutch diplomat had earlier delivered a strong protest to the ministry.

Crucial stage

MOSCOW, Nov 11, (Kuna): Swedish Foreign Minister Sten Andersson yesterday said that the Middle East peace process was entering a crucial stage at present.

Andersson, answering a Kuna question during a press conference, said that the few coming months will prove whether the peace process will continue.

Explaining that talks with Soviet leaders tackled means of achieving peace in the Mideast, he pointed out that maintaining the peace momentum will greatly contribute in alleviating sufferings of the occupied territories' inhabitants.

Cholera epidemic

ALGIERS, Nov 11, (Reuters): Cholera has killed 18 persons in the Western Sahara, the diplomatic arm of the Polisario guerrilla front said yesterday.

The Information Ministry of the Saharawi Arab Democratic Republic appealed to international organisations to help the cholera victims and people wounded in recent desert fighting.

The statement said the sick and wounded were in hospitals "in the occupied towns," meaning Moroccan-controlled territory, but the authorities had not reported the epidemic because of a black-out on news from the area.

Cypriot talks

UNITED NATIONS, Nov 11, (Reuters): UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar will hold talks here with Cypriot President George Vassiliou on Nov 30 and with Turkish Cypriot leader Rauf Denktaş on Dec 4, a UN spokesman announced yesterday.

The UN chief will discuss with the two leaders how stalled negotiations on reunifying their divided island "can be resumed in a meaningful way," the spokesman added.

Ben Ali for UN

TUNIS, Nov 11, (Reuters): President Zine Abidine Ben Ali left Tunisia today for the United States where he will address the UN General Assembly and hold talks with President George Bush.

Ben Ali will go to Washington on Tuesday for a private meeting at the White House with President George Bush following his New York speech to the UN on Monday.

The visit is Ben Ali's first to North America since he took power two years ago.

Al Bashir visits

SANAA, Nov 11, (AP): Lt Gen. Omar Hassan Al Bashir, head of Sudan's ruling military junta, arrived today on a two-day official visit for talks with North Yemen President Ali Abdullah Saleh.

According to official statements, the two leaders will discuss means of bolstering bilateral ties and review developments on the Arab and international spheres.

The two countries overlook the Red Sea whose bordering states seek closer co-operation for maintaining its security and keeping it free of tension.

House collapses

ISTANBUL, Nov 11, (Reuters): A family of 13 died when their mud-brick house collapsed after heavy rains near Silvan in southeast Turkey today, Anatolian news agency said.

'Space for Earth' conference opens in Riyadh; Soviets concede God exists

RIYADH, Nov 11, (AP): The Saudi Arabian defence minister opened today a five-day conference of space explorers, with the focus on means of collectively harnessing space sciences to alleviate pains of mankind.

Prince Sultan Abdul-Aziz told the 5th planetary congress of the Association of Space Explorers that Saudi Arabia "is committed to pursue a policy of benefiting from space sciences and technologies."

He urged the congress in a speech to carry on efforts aimed at "evolving a clear and realistic appreciation of what is being done in space to make Earth a peaceful planet for all."

Soviet cosmonauts, apparently aware of being hosted by the guardians of the Islamic faith, guar-

dedly shirked atheism and conceded that God exists. Their chief delegate lauded Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev for "reinstating religion to its rightful place in (the Soviet) society."

"Indeed, this is one of Gorbachev's wisest decisions," said Maj. Gen. Alexei Leonov. "We know that Karl Marx (founder of communism) had said that religion is the opium of peoples... what a blissful opium."

Leonov and Russell "Rusty" Schweickart of the United States are co-chairmen of the association. Addressing a news conference, they expressed hopes their governments will agree on a joint US-Soviet flight to Mars.

Conspicuously absent was Neil Armstrong, the first man to walk on the moon. Lionov is noted as the first man to walk in space.

"Space for Earth" was the keynote of the sessions and title of an address to be delivered by India's Dr Yash Pal, this year's winner of the association award for his work in designing a satellite network to serve rural areas.

Saudi astronaut Prince Sultan Bin Salman, the first Arab to visit outer space, appealed to reporters to exhort peoples and governments of the world to support the association morally and financially.

A major in the Saudi Air Force, the young prince, the host of the conference, was aboard a US space shuttle Discovery flight in 1985.

Schweickart said that foremost on the agenda is a "rescue in space" programme complete with facilities and laws for coming to the aid of persons and ships in distress in space.

He said the parleys were motivated mainly by a "sense of welfare of all mankind, regardless of nationality, colour or creed."

"Political leaders are beginning to respond to our behests," he said, stressing that the congress has no definite leverage on the political leaders of the world and appealing to the media for help.

The astronauts listened to reporters' questions about space being infested with so-called spy satellites and threatened with Star Wars between the superpowers.

Ravens attack Israeli town

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, Nov 11, (AP): A flock of about 50 to 70 ravens attacked an apartment building in a small Israeli town today, flying into windows, terrifying the residents and injuring at least one man, police said.

Israel's Nature Reserve Authority officials shot dead two of the sharp-beaked black birds before chasing the flock away.

"It was exactly like (Alfred) Hitchcock's movie, 'The Birds.' They flew over the house and in and out the apartments," said area police head, chief superintendent Roni Raz. "There were some 50 to 70 birds."

The ravens attacked and scratched at least one man during their three-hour assault in Kiryat Hayim near the northern port city of Haifa, he said.

Raz said terrified residents first called the police at about 10 am to report the attack.

Deportation after 4 serious offences

1.5m sets of prints stored

ABOUT 1.5 million sets of fingerprints are kept at the General Department for Criminal Evidence, the director, Colonel Saud Abdul Aziz Al Barges, said.

He also said that simple offences committed by citizens or expatriates, such as traffic or residence law violations would not lead to deportation or ban from work.

But people could be deported if they committed four serious offences in a period of five years, or three offences if one involved a jail term. They could also be deported if there was an administrative or judicial decision to deport them.

He told a local daily that the department was currently involved in re-taking the fingerprints of citizens and expatriates in the country and the whole project would be computerised.

Entering the fingerprint records into the computer would solve many problems relating to speed and accuracy and would facilitate retrieval of essential details needed to solve crimes which would otherwise have to be classified as "subject unknown."

Identification

He said the fingerprint experts had ways of identifying finger-

prints even under slightly confusing circumstances, and that the fingerprints collected would be kept at the department eternally, even if a person was dead.

He explained that fingerprints were being retaken to implement Cabinet Decision No. 32/85 in a bid to update its technical archives and records. He said the work would be performed in line with standard criteria.

Colonel Barges said the Department for Criminal Evidence incorporated the Central Department for Criminal Laboratories, the Central Department for Scenes of the Crime, the Central Department for Personal Identification and other departments.

Branches

He said the department paid much attention to training Kuwaiti staff in specialised fields and on highly advanced equipment in order to acquaint them with the latest technologies employed in criminal work. He added that some staff and technicians were sent abroad to attend training courses in criminology and related sciences in Britain, the United States and Canada. Others were sent to the Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research in fields dealing with

laboratory analysis.

He said that two branch offices had been opened recently in the governorates of Jahra and Ahmadi and were staffed with specialists in scenes of the crime work and the branches were ready to work on a 24-hour basis. This would enable the department to ensure speedy arrival at the scene of crimes and prevent tampering with potential evidence.

The department had also set up branch offices in four governorates to facilitate the processing of public transaction in line with the principle of decentralisation.

He said the functions of the department involved the analysis of material evidence and possible connection to a suspect. This would help in uncovering details of the crime.

He said Kuwait has strong co-operation ties with GCC states and all other countries in the field of criminal services.

He said the department was able to process an average of 800 transactions on a daily basis and that 95 per cent of all the transactions received would be processed while the remaining five per cent would be delayed for security reasons.

Civil ID cards may be delivered by mail

Inquiry system to be upgraded

THE Public Authority for Civil Information (PACI) is currently considering delivering ID-Cards to citizen and expatriates by mail, following the success of the renewal process by mail.

Director-General of the authority Faisal Al Shaiji has told a local daily recently that the proposed delivery-by-mail service is part of the authority's efforts to further facilitate the processing of public transactions, and that work is currently focussed on designing special envelopes for this service and agreeing on a fixed tariff, in co-operation with the Ministry of Communications.

He added that people would however, still have the option of coming down to the

authority's offices and collecting it personally.

Information

He said that the authority had introduced the public inquiry system both in Arabic and in English. English-speaking people could use telephone number 2665000 for their inquiries while inquiries made in Arabic could be addressed to telephone number 2661000. Studies were under way to further expand the scope of this public inquiry service, to obtain information on steps to be taken for registering a family member for the first time in the Public Civil Information System.

Shaiji said that this service would be

obtained by dialling, say the digit 1 and information on procedures for changing the address could be obtained by dialling digit 5 and so on, and that under this proposed expansion of the public inquiry system people at home could obtain all necessary information for their transactions without having to crowd the authority offices to make simple inquiries.

He added that the authority was planning to increase the number of operating telephone lines to 22 instead of 18, of which 16 would be allocated for information on queries made in Arabic and 6 for queries addressed in English. A public questionnaire would be invited to deter-

mine the efficacy of this service in facilitating the handling of public transactions, now that the number of total public queries addressed to the automated services daily has jumped to 10,000.

He added that the authority has also decided to invite a public questionnaire intended to evaluate the total sum of services rendered by the authority and the response, time and quality of these services as performed by the authority's staff.

He pointed out that the purpose of the public questionnaire was to collect public views on these services, so that the authority can eliminate all remaining negativities and further improve the performance and refine the quality of services.

Cleanliness week to be staged on a grand scale

THE director of the Public Relations Department and chairman of the committee entrusted with celebrating the National Cleanliness Week at Kuwait Municipality Naser Al Aiyar has said that the celebration of the National Cleanliness Week from November 25 to 29 was an idea that was bred at a meeting by municipality officials at the GCC who decided to launch similar celebrations in their countries.

He told a local daily that the director-general of the municipality had issued a decision forming an ad-hoc committee in charge of organising this event under the chairmanship of the assistant director-general for health affairs. Four sub-committees for following up the celebrations and related activities were also formed.

Aiyar said that these committees were carrying with their duties fervently in a bid to ensure a decent staging of this event and all government agencies involved had been contacted to extend their co-operation and contributions to efforts exerted in this respect.

Programme

He said that the opening ceremony would be held under the patronage of the Minister of State for Municipal Affairs which would be telecast by all operating media, and that the programme of activities would include symposia, lectures, carnivals, and beach clean-up campaigns with a special contest to determine the cleanest street and neighbourhood.

Aiyar added that Friday sermons at mosques would be devoted to highlighting the essential religious content and substantial communal meaning of the motto "Cleanliness is next to Godliness," whereby the intent would be to further encourage people to maintain their neighbourhoods and contribute to the national efforts in keeping the country clean.

He pointed out that the central idea of the whole event was to step up public awareness and consequently participation in the preservation of national cleanliness.

The sites to be used for celebration would include the KOC playground in Ahmadi, the adjacent open-space area to Omariya Zoo, Mishref, intermediate school for girls in Hawalli and the seafont for celebrations staged in Kuwait City, Aiyar said.



Army meets Navy

The Chief of Staff of Kuwait Army Major-General Mazyed Al Sane received in his office yesterday the commander of the western fleet of India, Rear Admiral Inderjit Bedi and the accompanying delegation. They exchanged talks of mutual concern. They also exchanged memorial gifts at the end of the meeting.

Support for Palestinian physicians requested

A PALESTINIAN orthopaedist has called for establishing a Kuwaiti-Palestinian committee to support Palestinian physicians working in the occupied territories.

Dr Rustom Al Nimri from Al Makased Charity Hospital in the occupied city of Nablus in West Bank said at a press conference held in Kuwait that Palestinian hospitals in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip were playing a great role and introducing medical treatment for Palestinians despite receiving seriously injured persons who were mostly victims of Israeli violence.

He added that these hospitals suffered from a shortage of qualified physicians and surgeons and poor funds.

He added that about 60,000 Palestinians have been injured by Israeli forces since the beginning of the uprising (intifada). There were about 3,000 handicapped who needed treatment and 100 hopeless cases.

Projects

Dr Mohammed Abu Shahla from the occupied territories said at the same conference that occupation authorities carried out an ugly criminal work specially against bodies of the martyrs. He added that Israeli stole organs of martyrs like kidneys and corneas.

Dr Mamdouh Al Akr from Itihad Hospital in Nablus city, West Bank, said that Israeli forces hindered work and services of Palestinian hospitals by stealing the ambulance cars and breaking into the hospitals and operation rooms as well as the intensive care rooms.

Meanwhile, the chairman of the Palestine and Lebanon charity support committee, Ahmad Al Falah, said that the committee carried out several activities and projects in the occupied territories

during the present intifada, specially to ensure livelihood and food for Palestinians there.

The committee tried to give money to each injured person, prisoner and family of the martyr. The committee was also working to spread Islamic culture and awareness among Palestinians to strengthen them in their confrontation with Israeli forces.

The committee began a project to establish 60 centres for teaching the Holy Quran in the West Bank among 350 centres and to establish 350 centres in different cities and villages of occupied Palestine.

Falah pointed out that the number of Palestinian martyrs had reached about 900 from the beginning of intifada on Dec 8, 1987.

Injured persons numbered more than 90,000 and there were about 80,000 prisoners. Many Palestinians were also expelled from their homeland and had their houses destroyed by Israeli forces.

The committee also paid the cost of the strikes and activities of intifada. This pushed the committee to establish a fund to support families of martyrs, injured and prisoners by allocating money for these families.

The committee organised several seminars and lectures to support the intifada beside the charity bazaars and exhibitions.

It sent about \$2 million to support intifada and \$2 million to support and finance charity activities and projects in the occupied territories.

The committee is preparing to celebrate the 3rd Palestine Week from Dec 26, 1989 to Jan 1, 1990 at the Fairground in Mishref. The week will have the slogan "Our Children Make the Glories of Palestine." It will include some activities such as a charity bazaar, artistic festival, and a book and photography exhibit. The returns of the week will be given to the intifada fund, Al Falah said.

Complaints welcomed at school department

THE School Activity Department is considered the largest one at the Education Ministry, the director of the department, Khaled Al Harban, said.

He told a local daily that the department was ready to receive all kinds of proposals and complaints.

He said that refereeing matches that might occur during club contests were generally simple one and likely to happen during the summer season.

He said that the school activity department of all educational areas fell under the full technical and administrative supervision of the department. Regular meetings were held among activity department managers of educational areas to ensure the effectiveness of the programmes put forward by the central department.

Follow up

Harban said he personally followed up the activities of all clubs and the final reports which generally did not reveal any problems.

Speaking about school camps, he said these were different from those of the past.

Formerly students participated actively in camps activities. Now students do not receive meals at schools, and camps therefore are required to provide a wider variety of meals and services during school holidays.

Early start in English stressed

DR Abbas Al Shemari, the English language professor at the Languages Centre stressed that an early start at learning English has better impact on the future level of students in learning and grasping the English language.

During a lecture which he delivered on the English situation in Kuwait, stated that the comprehension of Kuwaiti students is limited only to the lecture.

He pointed out that studies have indicated that students who had the opportunity to learn English from an early age enjoy better levels than students who start learning English much later. He stressed the importance of the age factor in learning English as a second language.

Dr Shemari called upon the formation of specialised committees in order to study the possibility of teaching students English at earlier ages.



Kharrazeh receives Dutch diplomat

The director-general of the Kuwait Union of Consumer Co-operative Societies Abdul Latif Al Kharrazeh received the first secretary and deputy chief of the diplomatic mission at the Embassy of Holland in Kuwait, Joseph Damoiseau.

Discussion at the meeting dealt with means of co-operation between the two countries and the policies approved by the Union of Consumer Co-operative Societies in Kuwait on collective purchases and imports and related standards.

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Council meeting
THE governor of Farwaniya presided over a meeting of the governorate council.
Decisions taken at the meeting dealt with appointment of the secretary to the council, the formation of a number of committees to look into complaints by the public, cultural and social matters, studies and follow-up, and environmental and health affairs.

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Riyadh principles to protect delinquents

THE chairman of the Riyadh based Arab Centre for Security Studies and Training, Dr Farouk Murak, said that the centre was linked with the United Nations and other international organizations.

He told a local daily, that the centre was making important contributions towards adopting of international resolutions, adding that the centre had submitted several social research studies to specialised organisations.

He disclosed that the 8th UN security conference scheduled to take place next year will adopt the Riyadh principles to protect youths from delinquency. He explained that this name had been given when these principles had been adopted at conference hosted by the Arab centre, patronised by the United Nations and attended by international experts.

He added that the centre had a relation with Interpol, being elected as an observer at the organisation. He said this would enable the

centre to get the experience in the field of security.

He said that the centre had been formed to provide services to all Arab countries, specially the qualifying of security men in different specialisations such as public management, psychology, sociology and criminal law in addition to the other applied studies.

He added that there were about 250 students studying in the centres this year from different Arab countries.

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KUWAIT UNIVERSITY
Faculty of Arts
Department of English
Cultural Committee
The Cultural Committee of the English Department has pleasure in inviting you to its 54th seminar:
Theme : "Music and the Ballad in Ireland"
Speaker : Dr. Robin Thelwall, English Department, Kuwait University
Date : Monday, 13 November, 1989
Time : 6:00 P.M.
Location : Room 312, Building 5 (Opposite English Dept. Bldg., Shuwaikh)
Afterwards, tea will be served
Cultural Committee

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Commodore on the road

COMMODORE is directing its current world sales drive through the Arab world with a spectacular display of the latest in Commodore Technology. The theme is "The World of Commodore Roadshow" and the Kuwaiti Principals Saleh Al Roumi are set to welcome guests on 14th & 15th November at the Ramada Al Salam Hotel. The show is unequal to any other providing an opportunity to present the vast range of computing products that Commodore are currently producing. These products range from the worlds top selling micro to the latest addition to the Commodore range the amazing new AMIGA 2500 UX a proud and powerful flagship UNIX based workstation. In addition the complete range of Commodore PCs with unique features manufactured in West Germany will be on show and running demonstrations of the new Saleh Al Roumi Bi-Lingual English/Arabic Accounting package from the development department will also be shown.

Presentation

One of the highlights of the Roadshow will be a dynamic presentation of the power and performance of the Commodore AMIGA by Hyper Media specialist Joel Tessler from Miami, USA.

Joel has produced AMIGA ANIMATION for the 1989 American Football Super Bowl which received world-wide television coverage with a target audience of 270 million people. He is a feature writer for AMIGA WORLD & AMIGA PLUS magazines and is on the scoreboard staff at the Joe Robbie Stadium in Miami producing dazzling Amiga animations at every Miami Dolphins Home Game on the huge JUMBOTRON colour display screen. Joel has also acted as adviser to the Saleh Al Roumi Co. who have been responsible for producing the animated graphics on the OMEGA scoreboard at Al Khazma Stadium using the AMIGA Computer during the "Peace and Friendship Games" football tournament.

Commodore Products & Marketing Manager Greg Koler, Roadshow Manager Mikal Nielsen and Saleh Al Roumi Computer Division Manager Mohamed Weston will all be in attendance with a dedicated team of Commodore professionals to guide you through the years most exciting computer event.

مركز الامارات

ARAB TIMES

Thought for today

NO man manages his affairs as well as a tree does —
George Bernard Shaw, Irish-born playwright (1856-1950)Reforms sweep
East bloc nations

THE dramatic changes in the past month in East Germany capped a year of breathtaking reform in the Soviet bloc that has touched even those countries most resistant to change and pushed others to the brink of Western-style democracy.

The changes in East Germany in recent weeks were preceded by slower but no less significant changes in other East bloc countries, most notably in Poland and Hungary which are well on their way to establishing democratic pluralism.

But the changes in Eastern Europe would never have been possible without the reform crusade in the Soviet Union under President Mikhail Gorbachev, who has declared that each country must find its own road to socialism.

The Soviet empire established at the end of World War II with the East bloc satellites firmly in Moscow's grip is disintegrating as one country after another is seeking alternatives to the centrally-planned and single-party communist system.

Hungary, in a symbolic toppling of communist power, has vowed to remove the Red Star atop its sprawling parliament building and has already removed a statue of Lenin near Budapest's Heroes Square.

Parliament last month rewrote the constitution to eliminate all references to the leading role of the Communist Party and lay the legal groundwork for the first free multi-party elections since the communists consolidated power in 1948.

Even the Communist Party itself has been banished to history books since it disbanded last month. A new Western European-oriented Socialist Party was established instead, espousing democratic ideals and vowing to give up power if it loses the elections.

Poland in August established Eastern Europe's first government that is not led by communists, under Premier Tadeusz Mazowiecki, an activist of the once-banned Solidarity trade union.

The coalition government was formed after Solidarity won overwhelmingly over the Communist Party in partially democratic elections held in June that were agreed upon at historic round table negotiations between the trade union and the communist government.

Soviet citizens in March for the first time were able to choose candidates in elections for a new Congress of People's Deputies, putting even dissidents such as Andrei Sakharov into the body which was marked by unprecedented debate broadcast live on state television.

In June, a new more powerful Supreme Soviet legislature for the first time rejected government nominees for cabinet posts and granted the Baltic republics financial autonomy starting in 1990.

The Soviet Union in April began withdrawing its troops from Hungary, Poland, Czechoslovakia and East Germany as part of Gorbachev's unilateral military cuts announced last December, partially fulfilling a long-time desire of most East bloc citizens.

The Soviet leader at a landmark summit meeting of the seven-member Warsaw Pact in Bucharest, Romania, last July, agreed with the other leader that each country has "the right to make its own political lines, strategy and tactics without any outside interference."

This stance, which analysts say marks the death of the "Brezhnev doctrine" — invoked to justify Soviet military intervention in countries in which socialism was considered "in danger" — has been reinforced at subsequent Warsaw Pact meetings.

Most recently Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman Gennadi Gerasimov invoked what he called "the Frank Sinatra doctrine," citing the song, "I Did It My Way."

And even in those countries most resistant to change — Czechoslovakia, Romania and Bulgaria — leaders have had to face increasing opposition by citizens calling for change.

Although popular anger has been kept in check by police force in countries opposed to broad reform, citizens are realising their rulers can no longer call on Soviet tanks to back a crackdown. This conviction has been most dramatically illustrated in East Germany.

In Czechoslovakia, the country with perhaps the strongest democratic traditions of any Soviet bloc country, citizens have taken to the streets in demonstrations for more democracy several times this year, the most recent one last month, drawing up to 10,000 people calling for freedom and a new government.

Despite police crackdowns on independent groups, and the government's repeated vows not to negotiate with opposition groups, calls for change have not been growing.

Several thousand people have signed an appeal for more democracy and the imprisonment of the country's most known activist Vaclav Havel earlier this year drew unprecedented criticism at home, even from established intellectuals.

Despite the crackdowns, small freedoms have been granted, such as eased travel this year with citizens no longer requiring invitations only from relatives abroad and the official publication of works by Franz Kafka, whose works were long banned in his native country.

Literature and press freedom have also flowered in other countries, with Soviets able to read Nobel laureate Alexander Solzhenitsyn who was expelled from the Soviet Union in 1974, and Samizdat publications in Poland and Hungary becoming legal.

In Bulgaria, Todor Zhivkov, the longest-serving leader in Eastern Europe, resigned Friday. In recent months several small civil rights groups have sprung up in that country calling for change.

During a 35-nation meeting in Sofia last month, thousands of people demonstrated for reform unhindered by police in the first large-scale unsanctioned rally in post-war Bulgaria.

Romania, where communist leader Nicolae Ceausescu has been the most outspoken opponent of reform in the East bloc and dissent is harshly suppressed, even former senior Communist Party members have issued calls for change.

Berlin Wall open for unimpeded travel

Germanys not close to merger

EAST GERMANY's electrifying decision to open the Berlin Wall for unimpeded travel by its citizens has brought the two halves of Germany far closer together. But the two states are still a long way from a merger.

The two Germanys have belonged to hostile camps ever since the occupation following the defeat of Nazi Germany in 1945. Their drawing together in economic, social and cultural matters now seems inevitable because of the remarkable changes that have swept East Germany's communist system in recent weeks.

Yet for many reasons, a complete reunification of East and West Germany — with one government sharing political responsibility for people in both countries — will be hard to achieve.

■ Defense requirements of the Soviet Union and the United States in the volatile heart of Europe preclude the total withdrawals of troops from both Germanys at present. This would seem to be an essential pre-condition for reunification.

■ A backlash is possible from West Germans, particularly those in lower-income groups who feel economically threatened, against the tide of German refugees from the East. This year alone, 500,000 have arrived in West Germany.

■ The question remains whether East Germans, after four decades of living in a highly subsidized, albeit shortage-plagued economy, will want to jettison socialism to embrace capitalism, with all the foibles of the free marketplace.

Although the West German constitution of 1949 embraces the goal of German unity and guarantees West German citizenship to all people of German background, the country already has a critical housing problem and faces labour tensions caused by chronic unemployment, now at more than 7 per cent.

This concern was underlined in a television comment Thursday by a West German youth, who declared in reaction to the opening of the Berlin Wall: "The Federal Republic is not a country of immigrants."

Chancellor Helmut Kohl, who was visiting Warsaw when East Germany threw open the barrier on Thursday, said West Germany's interest "must be that our compatriots stay in their homeland."

The superpowers' security interests would have to be worked out before complete reunification could occur. The Soviets have upwards of 400,000 troops stationed in East Germany — the cornerstone of the Warsaw Pact alliance — and the United States has



Hundreds of East Berliners queue at Check Point Charlie on Friday following announcement of the opening of the East German borders. (Reuters wire-photo)

250,000 troops in West Germany — guaranteeing the viability of the Nato alliance.

Presumably, all these troops would have to be withdrawn before reunification could proceed. It is unclear whether this would lead to a neutralized Germany, or if the alliances want this.

Another consideration is the European Economic Community's plan to eliminate virtually all trade barriers in Western Europe in 1992.

Provisions would have to be made to include East Germany in the new "open border" trading system — privileges it already enjoys to a limited extent with West Germany.

French Premier Michel Rocard said Thursday he

would not oppose East German membership, but he advocated thorough negotiations beforehand.

It's far from certain that West Germans would accept reunification with East Germany if the price tag is neutrality.

West Germany might have to face the prospect of disarmament, or at least vast cutbacks in its armed forces. This would raise the issue of guarantees for Germany's security — and whether a unified German state would settle for such assurances from other countries.

Yet, a closer association of the two Germanys — especially in economic matters and trade — seems certain, even if reunification is put off for years. And Chancellor Kohl has promised to pump in more West German financing if East Germany holds free elections.

Meanwhile, George Bush and Mikhail Gorbachev conceivably could decide to reduce troops in both Germanys at their summit meeting next month as a confidence-building gesture.

But Western Europeans — despite their leaders' professed support for the sudden turn of events in East Germany — harbour suspicions of a unified Germany that would become the most powerful political and trade force in their midst.

And citizens of the Soviet Union, mindful of its staggering losses in two world wars, have strong concern about a resurgent Germany.

On Friday, Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman Gennadi Gerasimov praised East German reforms, but said any speculation about a reunified Germany is "out of the question."

Certainly nothing can happen before the communist elite of East Germany permits a fundamental change: free elections that could turn it out of government leadership. This would be tantamount to dumping the authoritarian system that has ruled with total control for 40 years.

While it is true that Poland and Hungary have abandoned the "leading role" of the Communist Party in their countries, the East German hierarchy led by Egon Krenz has shown no willingness to do the same.

Nor have the 17 million East German citizens given any final word on whether they would want to abandon socialism in favour of an open, free-market society of the kind that flourishes next door in West Germany. Many will no doubt conclude that a modified form of socialism — shored up by West German financial aid — would serve their needs better. (New York — AP)

Europeans face conflict over Muslims

THE mayor of Marseille endorsed plans for a 45-acre (18-hectare) Islamic complex with a minaret 200 feet (61 metres) high. In a town near Lyon, the mayor ordered a mosque razed.

Across Europe, Christian majorities are divided over how to respond to Muslim populations — now approaching 10 million by some estimates — that are slow to fully adapt to local societies.

Despite curbs on immigration, numbers are increasing because of family reunions, birth rates, refugees and clandestine entries.

Fears run deep in West Germany, where a programme to import "guest workers" begun in the 1960s resulted in 1.5 million Turks who are not going home. In Britain, growing South Asian communities spark conflicts.

More than a half million Muslims live in Belgium and the Netherlands.

But in France, where 3 million Muslims make Islam the second religion after Catholicism, debate is fierce. It crystallised recently over the right of three schoolgirls to cover their hair.

Camille Joux, a Lyon insurance broker, formed a

group to bar a planned mosque from his neighbourhood. The site was hazardous, he said, because Muslim-haters might dynamite a nearby water tower.

He warns that the single society that is supposed to emerge after the European Economic Community eliminates trade barriers in 1992 will be shaped by an alien taint.

"Islamic society rejects all others," he said. "It will create parties, exploiting our democratic systems to win a holy war without arms. Voltaire must be rolling in his grave."

Most Muslims, supported by a broad range of French politicians and intellectuals, condemn that reasoning.

Mustafa Slimani, at 34 a self-made meat magnate, rallied Muslims behind his dream for a gigantic Marseille mosque. It remains on paper, but city officials agree to it in principle.

"I am French, and I am a Muslim," he said. "Why should there be a contradiction? Marseille has a cathedral and a synagogue. It must also have a mosque."

European public opinion on Muslim and non-white immigration is difficult to gauge. Most poll respondents deny racist feelings, but pollsters say clear negative attitudes come through.

In a survey published this year, the French organisation Sofres reported that European societies across the board were fearful that immigrants would not only take jobs but also dilute cultures.

"Beyond national peculiarities of European countries," a Sofres analyst wrote, "the dominant climate is of aggravated tensions and pessimism. Islam was a particular problem cited."

Latent tension erupted in France when three girls were expelled from a school near Paris for wearing "hijabs" for a month to mask their hair from men.

For the scarves, everyone up to Premier Michel Rocard voiced opinions. Broad camps formed. Rocard ruled that France did not regulate dress, but he stressed that schools were secular.

Polls show a majority of Frenchmen believe the "veil affair" was manipulated by the same Iranian-linked Islamic fundamentalists who rose against Salman Rushdie's "The Satanic Verses."

Britons contemplate life without Thatcher

FOR the first time, Margaret Thatcher is giving Britons a glimpse of a future without her all-embracing presence. And her admission of political mortality is likely to intensify the war of succession that began to stir last month at her Conservative Party's annual convention.

Thatcher, who only six months ago looked unsalable, has been looking increasingly vulnerable and defensive. An economic slump, culminating in the resignation of Chancellor of the Exchequer Nigel Lawson on Oct. 26, has confronted her with possibly the worst crisis of her decade in office.

Early this month, in an interview with the Sunday Correspondent newspaper, she said she is likely to step down sometime after the next election, which must be held by mid-1992.

"I think people would think it was time for someone else to carry the torch," she said.

At 64, midway through a third five-year term, her comment shouldn't have been all that surprising.

The fact that it created a furor is testimony to the profound impact she has had on British life.

Yet even before Thatcher triggered her latest crisis by forcing Lawson out, contenders for 10 Downing Street such as former Defense Secretary Michael Heseltine and Deputy Prime Minister Sir Geoffrey Howe already had been sending out veiled challenges to Thatcher's rule.

With inflation above 7 per cent, interest rates at an eight-year high of 15 per cent and the trade deficit hitting new records, the gloss had gone off the Thatcherite boom and the opposition Labour Party was averaging a 10-point lead in opinion polls.

Then came Lawson's bombshell, depriving Thatcher of the man she herself had credited with turning Britain's economic fortunes around. Thus her interview with the Sunday Correspondent, published Nov. 5, became something of a starter's pistol in the race to succeed her.

Lawson said he resigned because Thatcher

ignored his ultimatum to sack Sir Alan Walters, her part-time economic adviser. Lawson accused Walters of undermining his policies.

His resignation forced a shuffle in which the three senior ministries changed hands. In the view of many commentators, it gave the 22-member cabinet more power over Thatcher, if only because she can't afford to lose another senior minister.

"The world has changed for her. Changed utterly... the fear has gone out of those formerly timid men who surrounded her cabinet table," commented the pro-Thatcher Daily Express newspaper.

At the heart of the crisis are two issues: Mrs Thatcher's personal style and Britain's place in Europe.

Many observers believe that Thatcher's attitude is symptomatic of an island nation's "persistently ambiguous attitude towards European integration," as commentator Robert Mauthner put it in the Financial Times. (London — AP)

Profile

Zhivkov resisted democratic changes

BULGARIAN President Todor Zhivkov, who resigned on Friday, was Eastern Europe's longest-serving leader and resisted democratic changes that swept other parts of the region.

During his 35 years in power, Zhivkov improved Bulgaria's living standards, although they remain among the lowest in the Soviet bloc. He brought political stability to Bulgaria's nine million, mainly peasant, population.

But although he publicly embraced the reform policies of Soviet Leader Mikhail Gorbachev, Zhivkov, 78, maintained a firm personal grip on power, removing potential reformers from positions of authority.

In contrast to Poland and Hungary, where both ruling Communist Parties made way for multi-party democracy, reforms in Bulgaria were limited to ambiguous moves to streamline a stagnating economy.

Zhivkov's handling of dissidents was firm. Members of fledgling opposition groups said they had been harassed, imprisoned and expelled for even daring to discuss human rights.

A master tactician, Zhivkov began cautiously in his later years to liberalise travel restrictions.

Signs of strain emerged in his links with Moscow after the 1982 death of Soviet Leader Leonid Brezhnev. These persisted into Gorbachev's tenure in the Kremlin, but there was some conciliation by the time of the Bulgarian party's 13th congress in April 1986.

At that meeting, Soviet Prime Minister Nikolai Ryzhkov appeared to give the Kremlin's blessing to Zhivkov's economic policies, which included a res-

tructuring of the top levels of economic and social government.

Moscow had been growing impatient with Bulgaria for depending so long on the Soviet economy, which provided 90 per cent of its oil as well as many other raw materials.

Bulgaria had been exporting second-class goods to the Soviet Union and saving its best products for hard currency customers in the West.

Uncertain relations with the Soviet Union were not the only shadow that darkened Zhivkov's later years.

The country's international image suffered from US charges that Bulgaria was involved in drug-trafficking, as well as allegations that its intelligence services were implicated in an attempt on the life of Pope John Paul.

A campaign to force about one million Bulgarian ethnic Turks to adopt Slav names also tarnished the country's image.

The Bulgarian economy, once one of the steadiest in East Europe, also ran into trouble in the mid-1980s, when successive droughts ruined its main crops and harsh winters hit the energy sector at a time when the Soviet Union was cutting back on its oil exports.

In the run-up to the 1986 congress, Zhivkov's call for restructuring of the government and the economy, involving a degree of decentralisation, were thought quite radical by Western analysts.

At a special Communist Party conference on reform in early 1988, Zhivkov called for limited reform for all party officials and suggested that the job of party chief and state president should not be

held by the same man. But he left his own future open.

Appointed in March 1954 as first secretary of the Bulgarian Communist Party, Zhivkov outlined four Soviet Party chiefs — Nikita Khrushchev, Leonid Brezhnev, Yuri Andropov and Konstantin Chernenko.

His close identification with Kremlin foreign policy drew sneers in the West and made him the butt of jokes among the East European intelligentsia. Detractors dubbed Bulgaria the Soviet Union's "16th republic."

Others saw him as a shrewd politician at home and an able manipulator of ties with the Kremlin, winning favourable economic treatment from Moscow unmatched elsewhere in the bloc.

Todor Zhivkov was born on September 7, 1911, in the Balkan mountain village of Pravets outside Sofia and after an elementary education worked in a Sofia printing firm.

After a spell in the Communist Youth League, he joined the Communist Party in 1932, holding district-level posts in the party's hierarchy until the start of World War Two.

During the German occupation he was a main organiser of the Partisans in the Sofia area and helped in the Communist takeover on September 9, 1944. After the war he rose to become by mid-1951 a full member of the ruling party politburo with a power base in Sofia.

In 1954 he became party first secretary though real power lay with Valko Chervenkov, leader of the party's so-called Stalinist faction, who held the premiership.

Letters to the editor

Misuse of medicine

SIR: I feel pain each time I throw away my unused medicine. The government health centres and clinics provide patients surplus medicine and much of it remains unused after they recover from their illness.

When millions of people in the world go without medical care, it is too painful to throw medicine in the garbage. I think the Ministry of Health should take measures to stop this misuse of medicine by prescribing the patients the minimum amount.

If the patient needs more medication, he can come one more time for extra dose. People go to the doctor for slight illness, much medication, in my opinion, makes them vulnerable to disease.

Doctors can avoid prescribing any medicine to a patient if he feels that the patient's body is strong enough to fight disease. This can reduce the rush at the clinics.

Harmu, Safat.

Swindling

SIR: Evangelist Jim Bakker who by using his power of hypnosis, a little knowledge of Gospel, and gift of the gab to preach "charismatic theology" swindled millions of dollars to fill his coffers.

Incidentally he happens to be only one unfortunate who is caught and punished. There are thousands like him, who are ashamed to sell their honest labour for a decent living, and hence take up this business to trick innocent victims.

About seven years ago, myself and my innocent family became easy victims of a similar swindler in Kuwait. Money is the root of all evils.

Albert Jossy Rego, Kuwait.

Unity missing

SIR: Can't you find some other topic of interest to fill up your paper? We are really fed up of reading the negative thinking of this particular community of India, in Kuwait.

They either sling mud at each other or do a lot of loose talking on other people. Some of them have been here for many years, and their achievements! — Nil. Do they serve their own community? No never — they are allergic to it.

N.K. Balan, Safat.

ALL letters to the Editor must contain the writer's name and address. Publication is at the discretion of the Editor and letters are subject to the edition process for space or other reasons.

Quote me

"I am alternately euphoric and scared." — A Western diplomat on tearing down of the Iron Curtain between East and West Germany.

"Things will never be the same again." — Willy Brandt, former West German chancellor on the crumbling of the Berlin Wall.

"I can't understand that I beat Becker. It's my happiest moment on the tennis court ever. I'm one of the old players on the circuit today and I'm happy I still can fight with the best." — Jan Gunnarsson of Sweden after beating world No. 2 Boris Becker.

"I took a risk coming here. I knew I wasn't 100 per cent fit, but I wanted to give it a try. So many good things have happened to me this year that I'm not going to let this loss disturb me. I felt tired, stiff and met an inspired opponent in Sweden. I couldn't overcome all those difficulties. This is life and in fact I like it that way, it makes us more human." — Boris Becker being philosophical after being beaten by a Swede.

"There is not much to strive for. I'm already in the Masters and I'm No. 4 in the world. There's not a whole lot more that can be accomplished. Hopefully, doing well here will get me motivated for the Masters." — John McEnroe after winning a match at Wembley.

"I'm happy with my position. Hopefully I can improve on it next year and be more prepared for the majors. That entails being fitter and better prepared mentally. Talent takes a back seat in those cases." — McEnroe on the tennis future.

"Stardom can be a fleeting thing, an up-and-down ride, but actors have careers. Some people pursue stardom relentlessly and sometimes they achieve it, but I think you can lose a lot doing that. I'm more interested in working." — actor David Morse on stardom.

"The worry is that there is a respectable xenophobia mushrooming all over the continent that is pushing some of the collective dream for 1992 to cluster around a concept of Europe which is white, racist and much more powerful than any postwar individual state." — Yasmin Alibhai, an editor of New Statesman and Society magazine in Britain, on anti-immigrant prejudice in Europe.

"Indeed, this is one of Gorbachev's wisest decisions." — "We know that Karl Marx (founder of communism) had said that religion is the opium of peoples... what a blissful opium." — Maj. Gen. Alexei Leonov, chief delegate of Soviet cosmonauts, said at a space conference.

"I am French, and I am a Muslim. Why should there be a contradiction? Marseille has a cathedral and a synagogue. It must also have a mosque." — Mustafa Slimani, self-made meat magnate rallying Muslim support for a mosque in Marseille, France.

"There's so many citations given out to violators who abuse the law, the LAPD (Los Angeles Police Department) thought it would be nice to reward the good drivers in our city for a change." — Officer Chuck Lovold of the Los Angeles Police Department's west traffic division on the handing out of movie passes to careful drivers.

"A currency union can only be reached if the East German mark is brought into a sensible relationship with the West German mark and, of course, if East Germany has undergone decisive financial, monetary and economic reforms." — West German Finance Minister Theo Waigel on common currency between East and West Germany.

"The immediate reaction to price rises might well be to say to hell with it and cross the border into West Germany where the constitution guarantees the right to a passport." — A West German analyst on reaction to price rises in East Germany.

TODAY IN HISTORY

- 1554 — Britain's parliament re-establishes Roman Catholicism.
- 1603 — Sir Walter Raleigh's high treason trial opens in Winchester, England.
- 1812 — Napoleon Bonaparte's Army reaches Russian city of Smolensk in retreat from Moscow.
- 1927 — Leon Trotsky is expelled from communist party in Russia, and Joseph Stalin becomes indisputed ruler.
- 1933 — Nazis dominate German elections.
- 1937 — Japanese troops occupy Chinese city of Shanghai.
- 1941 — Soviet troops halt Germans at outskirts of Moscow in world War II.
- 1948 — Japan's former Premier Hideki Tojo and other Japanese World War II leaders are sentenced to death.
- 1956 — Janos Kadar refuses to allow United Nations observers into Hungary; Sudan and Tunisia join United Nations.
- 1962 — Island of Guam, in Pacific, is devastated by typhoon.
- 1964 — Rhodesian high court rules Joshua Nkomo's detention illegal.
- 1965 — UN Security Council calls on all nations to refuse recognition to Rhodesia after that nation's unilateral declaration of independence from Britain.
- 1977 — Twenty-two nation open Arab League meeting in Tunis, and emphasis is on achieving solidarity.
- 1988 — At least 13 people are killed in racial violence in Sri Lanka.

BUSINESS & FINANCE

Alshall stock price indices

Market indices dip

THE Alshall Index for Kuwaiti shareholding companies recorded on Wednesday Nov 8, 1989 an average of 41.23 points with a decrease of 0.27 point — 0.65 per cent — from last week's average of Nov 1, 1989. The Alshall Index for non-Kuwaiti shareholding companies reached 66.55 with an increase of 1.73 point — 2.67 per cent — for the same period, according to Alshall weekly market review.

The trading volume for Kuwaiti shares reached 44.50 million shares at a daily average of 8.90 million shares with a decrease of 25 per cent from the previous week's daily average of 11.80 million shares.

Non-Kuwaiti traded shares reached 5.70 million shares at a daily average of 1.14 million shares with an increase of 30 per cent over last week's daily average of 0.88 million shares.

The value of Kuwaiti traded shares was KD10.35 million at a daily average of KD2.07 million, a decrease of 52 per cent from last week's daily average of KD4.31 million.

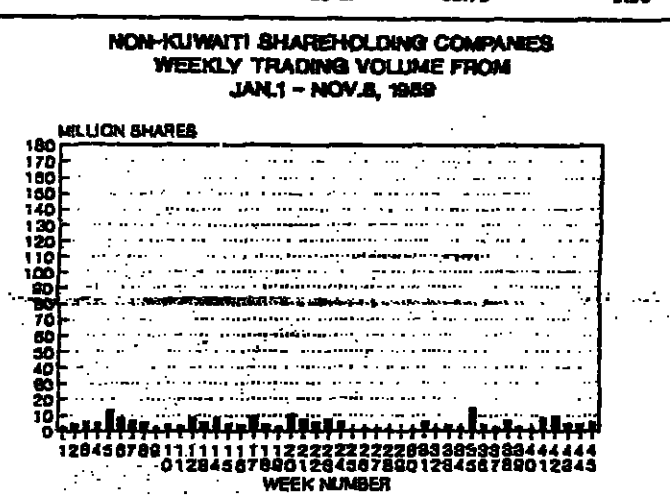
The value of non-Kuwaiti traded shares was KD0.260 million at a daily average of KD0.052 million, an increase of 58 per cent over last week's daily average of KD0.033 million.

For the Kuwaiti shares market, the banking sector came first at 46 per cent of total trading against 71 per cent last week. The Commercial Bank had the lead at 37 per cent followed by The Gulf Bank at 29 per cent and Al Ahl Bank at 12 per cent. The Investment and Development Company had the lead at 77 per cent followed by Kuwait Investment Projects at 20 per cent, and Commercial Facilities Company at 2 per cent. The Real Estate Sector came third at 19 per cent in which United Realty had the lead at 77 per cent followed by Kuwait Real Estate at 23 per cent.

As for the non-Kuwaiti shares market, Bahrain International Bank had the lead at 41 per cent followed by Umm Al Quain Cement Company at 24 per cent, Bahrain and Middle East Bank at 22 per cent.

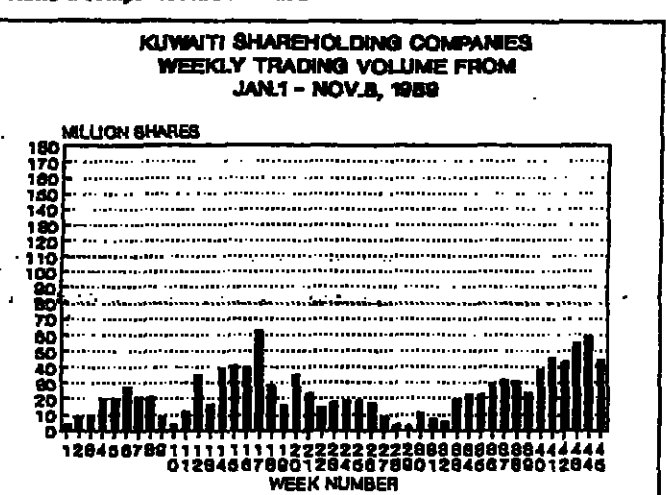
The market in general showed signs of weakness. The Kuwaiti shares market, which is considered as the main shares market, showed signs of weak performance after several weeks of activity, which was reflected on all indices.

Kuwaiti shareholding companies index			
Week	Wed.	Wed.	Change
08/11/89	01/11/89	01/11/89	points
Banking Sector	124.96	124.96	—
The National Bk	33.25	33.25	—
The Gulf Bk	23.71	23.71	—
The Comm. Bk	33.25	33.25	—
Al Ahl Bk	33.25	33.25	—
Bk of Kt & ME	30.86	30.86	—
Kuwait R. Est. Bk	27.58	27.58	—
Burgan Bk	55.69	55.69	—
Kt Finance House	55.69	55.69	—



Non-Kuwaiti shareholding companies index			
Week	Wed.	Wed.	Change
08/11/89	01/11/89	01/11/89	points
First G. Bk.	223.68	223.68	—
Bah. Int. Bk.	89.66	89.66	—
Bah. M.E. Bk.	89.66	89.66	—
A. Gen. Inv. (Shua)	43.94	43.94	—
Umm Al Q. Cmt.	15.25	15.25	—
G. Invest. Proj.	25.25	25.25	—
Total Index	66.55	66.55	—

—Based period 31/12/1988.
—All the companies listed by the Stock Exchange under non-Kuwaiti companies are included.



Opec may gain from East bloc change

LONDON, Nov 11, (Reuters): World oil prices could be pushed up by upheaval in the East bloc if reformist states try to expand their economies and increase demand for crude.

Oil analysts believe the changes sweeping Eastern Europe could attract Western investors to put money into the East bloc, which would mean more oil being consumed and prices rising.

This would benefit the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (Opec), which is already raising its world market share.

"The Soviet Union is now the joker in the pack," said Michael Vard, an analyst at London finance house UBS Phillips and Drew.

Vard said that output by the Soviet Union, the world's biggest producer, was declining and the two factors could increase demand for Opec crude.

Demand for Opec oil is already rebounding from a mid-1980s glut because of an economic boom in Asia and a drop in output by the United States, where imports have soared.

Prices remain far below the \$40 per barrel touched early in the 1980s, but an average for 1989 close to \$18 is 30 per cent up on last year.

Meanwhile the Soviet Union is now finding that it cannot afford the investment needed to keep its oil output up around recent record volumes above 12.5 million barrels daily.

Consistent bloc net daily exports to the West in 1988 were about 2.5 million barrels. "A fairly big balancing factor at the margin," according to Sir Peter Holmes, chairman of the British half of the giant Anglo-Dutch Shell oil multinational.

Holmes told a recent seminar on world oil supply that bloc exports now showed quite a significant decline.

A Top Soviet expert at the seminar challenged a view widely held among Western analysts that Moscow will do everything it can to maintain high oil exports because they earn a big proportion of Soviet hard currency.

Alexander Arbatov, vice-chairman of the Academy of Sciences Natural Resources Committee, said the Soviet Union might one day even find it profitable to import oil.

Arbatov said that to maintain current oil output would take 10 per cent or more of all Soviet investment in the 1990s. Output had to be cut to an economically acceptable level.

A possibility would be to settle accounts with other East bloc countries in convertible currencies. They might then buy more oil on the world market and less from the Soviet Union.

He also thought that money invested uneconomically on producing oil for export could be spent on making Soviet goods to substitute for items now imported for hard cash.

The Soviet Union is Iraq's major arms supplier and a key trading partner. Last year, non-military trade between the two countries totalled \$2 billion.

Iraq's military debt to Moscow is an estimated \$4-5 billion. Koltitain last week played down Iraq's military debt and said Baghdad was making repayments regularly "after we reached agreement of that last year."

Iraq's foreign debt is an estimated \$60-70 billion, incurred during the Gulf war.

The Soviet Union says it has found oil in the Barents Sea and given new evidence that a gas field there could be the largest offshore in the world, an official Norwegian source said yesterday.

The source said Moscow, seeking Western help to exploit petroleum reserves recently sent a map to the Norwegian government and to Western companies showing oil fields at Arctic sites in the Barents and Kara seas as well on the mainland.

Previously, the Soviet Union had said it believed it had huge gas fields in the area, but did not mention separate oil fields, said the source, who asked not to be named.

"The map shows that the Soviet Union has made a lot more finds and has done a lot more drilling in the Barents than we believed," he said.

Instead the central committee refers to "a socialist-planned economy geared to market forces."

Kohl, speaking in Bonn after interrupting his first visit to Poland to fly to West Berlin, made it clear he saw no alternative to the free market and said history showed centrally-planned economies did not work.

"Socialism of this sort has failed all over the world," he told a press conference after a cabinet meeting.

The East German reforms show a new mood of realism and recognise the dangers of reform emerging in Poland where living standards have plummeted.

Its major points are:
■ A 1990 plan to be worked out

Federal financial default averted

Producer price index rises 0.4pc

NEW YORK, Nov 11, (UPI): The Federal Reserve Board began its long-anticipated easing of credit policy this week and sent the benchmark interest rate on so-called Fed funds down a quarter of a percentage point in response to widespread concern of a softening economy.

The Labour Department's producer price index, an early warning indicator on inflation, rose 0.4 per cent on sharp increases in food and energy costs, but economists said there was no reason for concern.

Excluding those two categories, prices were only up 0.1 per cent.

Federal financial default was averted when Congress voted at the last minute to raise the government's borrowing limit to \$3.123 trillion, allowing its operation through September 1990 — the end of the fiscal year.

The legislation enabled the Treasury to auction off \$56 billion in securities that would provide cash to run the government.

The Fed's easing of credit battered the New York Stock Exchange, rendered fragile by the 190-point nose dive it took Oct 13.

On Monday the Dow Jones industrial average sank 47 points, a decline that analysts attributed to poor corporate earnings in the third quarter and resulting profit-taking by portfolio managers.

The Dow rose 15 points Tuesday on rumours of the Fed's easing, and surged 26 points Wednesday after 47 points, a decline that analysts attributed to poor corporate earnings in the third quarter and resulting profit-taking by portfolio managers.

The blue chip index slipped 20 points on Thursday when it became clear the Fed was going to hold its credit easing at an 8.5 per cent target for Fed funds, the building block for

all other interest rates.

A stock market flap over programme trading summed up as dealers criticised the NYSE's request for voluntary abstention from the computerised strategy to lock in profits. They said few will stop of their own accord and anti-programme mechanisms could cause market swings.

The UAL Corp. buyout, whose October collapse was the catalyst for the stock market's Friday the 13th gyrations, was revived as the corporation's chairman, Stephen Wolf, started looking for potential buyers.

UAL management and United Airlines pilots union representatives met with Saul Steinberg, Reliance Group Holdings, Inc. chairman, to explore dealmaking.

Steinberg has asked for federal antitrust clearance to obtain a stake in the company over 15 per cent. But he is not the only one interested in reassembling the phoenix-dollar transaction.

Money-management firm Coniston Partners of New York, which built a 9.7 per cent stake by bargain hunting after the Oct 13 crash, is eyeing a UAL takeover as well.

Another potential large acquisition is in the making: Pacificorp has made a \$208 billion offer to buy Arizona Public Service Co., which has been plagued with problems at a nuclear power plant. That's a low offer, but Arizona Public Service's current owner, Phoenix-based Pacific Western Capital Corp., is reportedly hungry for cash to refloat its troubled Merbank unit.

The shakeout on Wall Street continued as Shearson Lehman Hutton, one of the largest retail brokerages,

announced the first of what analysts expect to be 800 or more layoffs.

Shearson, which acquired E.F. Hutton last year, wants to boost profits by bringing its high costs down.

Drexel Burnham Lambert also started a round of layoffs, saying it would have to let 300 employees go. But analysts said they believed the cuts could eventually mount to 800.

Third-quarter corporate results showed an 18 per cent decline in profits — the first drop in more than two years. Analysts blamed the plummet on the huge third-quarter losses posted by money centre banks that added billions to their reserves for possible losses on Third World loans.

But they also said there may be more bad quarters ahead as profits come under a squeeze in the decelerating economy.

There was a major shakeup at J.P. Morgan and Co., the bank holding company. Its chairman, Lewis T. Preston, retired, and the bank's poorly performing securities underwriting unit was reorganised. The new chairman is Dennis Weatherstone, an Englishman who began his career with Morgan as a clerk in its London branch and rose through the foreign exchange area.

Long-running legal action over the Dalkon shield contraceptive device, which caused injury to thousands of women who used it, appeared to be nearing an end as the Supreme Court declined to examine challenges to a settlement proposed by manufacturer A.H. Robbins. The decision cleared the way for the company to come out of bankruptcy and be acquired by American Home Products.

Jubilation lifts dollar

E. German events ignite Wall Street

NEW YORK, Nov 11, (Reuters): The historic opening of East Germany's borders ignited a transatlantic "peace rally" in stock markets yesterday.

The jubilation also lifted the dollar at the expense of the West German mark because of uncertainty about the near-term impact of the news.

The Dow Jones industrial average climbed 21.92 points to 2,625.61 on the New York Stock Exchange, while the Dax index of 30 leading shares on the Frankfurt exchange surged by 33.7 points, or 2.3 per cent, to end at 1,496.69.

The East German government late on Thursday dissolved emigration restrictions to the West, saying citizens could leave the country through any border checkpoint, including those along the Berlin Wall that divides East and West Berlin.

In currency markets in New York, concern over the large-scale exodus of East Germans to West Germany and the impact on the mark prompted dealers to dump the currency in favour of the dollar.

The US currency jumped more than a penny to 1.8675 marks from 1.8520 at Thursday's close.

Most dealers said the long-term effect of the influx of East Germans would probably be positive, but they were uncertain about the near-term consequences on the West German economy.

"There are questions about how West Germany is

going to handle this, like what kind of funding the government has to undertake to provide housing," said a dealer.

The dollar also rose against the Japanese yen, ending at 143.45 yen, up from 143.10 on Thursday.

Meanwhile, persistent talk about a possible discount rate rise in Japan kept the yen strong against the mark. The mark closed at 76.81 yen, against 77.25 at Thursday's finish.

In the bond market yesterday, US Treasury securities ended a listless session barely changed, with no fresh factors to dictate the market's direction. The yield on the benchmark 30-year bond closed unchanged at 7.90 per cent.

On Wall Street, New York Stock Exchange volume was light yesterday, curtailed by a delayed opening and a bank holiday. But the mood was upbeat as traders reacted positively to the news that East Germany had finally flung open its borders.

"You've got all the greedy capitalists thinking about the untapped market for Western consumer goods," said Ed Laux at Kidder Peabody.

Reflecting the excitement in the United States, the Germany Fund, comprising stock holdings in 35 West German companies, gained \$2.75 to \$13.50, making it the leading percentage gainer on the New York Stock Exchange.

Oil and gas exploration

Burma awards contract to Amoco

RANGOON, Burma, Nov 11, (UPI): Burma has awarded a production-sharing contract for oil and gas exploration and production to Amoco Corp., the government announced yesterday.

The contract to the US company is the fifth of its kind the Burmese government has signed with foreign oil firms since it ended a 26-year ban on foreign participation in offshore petroleum exploration earlier this year.

The first four petroleum contract winners were Yukong of South Korea, Shell Exploration BV of the Netherlands, Idemitsu Oil Development Company of Japan, and Petro-Canada.

The initial contract with the Korean company was signed a month ago in Rangoon.

The announcement of the government's information committee gave no further details, but informed sources said that the Chicago-based Amoco's contract is for block "W" in the upper Chinthein area of northern Burma, about 440 miles (708 km) north of Rangoon.

The Burmese military seized power in September 1988 to crush pro-democracy protests. But it promised to open up the once closed economy by allowing private enterprise and foreign investment.

Burma has been suffering from a serious oil shortage since its crude production dropped from a peak of 1.2 million barrels in 1985 to only 6.4 million barrels in 1988.

Petroleum sources said the government has also approached some additional foreign oil companies through embassies in Rangoon and Burmese embassies abroad to see if they are interested in offshore exploration in Burmese waters. The companies have been asked to reply by the end of November.

Four international oil companies carried out oil and gas

exploration in 1976, but gave up their three-year production-sharing contracts in 1977 when their 17 wells proved dry.

Meanwhile, US oil prices slid downward yesterday on the New York Mercantile Exchange as unseasonably warm weather cut demand for heating oil, ending a week of lethargic trading that possibly set the stage for a major decline.

"It was a quiet day, one of the quietest days in a long time," said Don Morton of Paine Webber Inc., Andover, Massachusetts.

"There is a consensus that the market is kind of going through a topping-out phase in distillate (heating oil)... due to the unseasonably warm weather and abundance of product," the analyst said.

Helped by hurricanes, earthquakes and refinery shut-downs, the market has enjoyed a 12-week rally, Morton said. "Everything now is kind of going the other way. Our opinion is that the market is poised for a substantial decline — 4 to 5 cents a gallon in heating oil over the next 10 to 15 days," he said.

Morton said the test would come next week when the market tests the \$7.80 cents to 58 cents-a-gallon resistance level for heating oil.

On the Merc, heating oil finished the day at 58.45 cents a gallon, down 0.47 cent on the day and 1.67 on the week. It had gained 2.44 cents last week before the persistence of the warm weather became apparent.

December-delivery West Texas Intermediate, the benchmark US crude, ended the day on the Merc at \$19.84 a barrel, down 8 cents on the day and 37 cents on the week.

An estimated 53,445 contracts were traded, slightly more than half the average.

Ridley in Riyadh

UK to expand trade ties

NICOSIA, Nov 11, (Reuters): British Trade and Industry Secretary Nicholas Ridley held talks in Saudi Arabia today on ways to expand bilateral trade, the Saudi Press Agency (SPA) reported.

Ridley, who arrived yesterday, conferred with Commerce Minister Suleiman Al Saltm who described the talks were as positive and constructive, it said.

SPA, received in Cyprus, said the discussions also covered prospects for the six member states of the Gulf Co-operation Council (GCC) to market industrial products other than petrochemicals in Britain.

In addition to Saudi Arabia, the GCC comprises Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar and the United Arab Emirates. Meanwhile Saudi rial interbank deposits were mainly steady in a typically thin market, with most offshore operators absent due to the European weekend.

Dealers said rates for short and long-term maturities were basically unchanged in line with dollar interest rates, but ample liquidity was exerting downward pressure.

House passes oil spill legislation

WASHINGTON, Nov 11, (AP): Lawmakers expect President George Bush to sign legislation on oil spill liability that they hail as "an enormously significant environmental step forward" from the days before the Exxon Valdez disaster.

The bill approved 375-5 by the House of Representatives on Thursday gives "the strongest possible incentives for those who transport and produce oil to take every precaution that is humanly possible to avoid a spill," said Rep. Gerry Studds.

"We have every reason to expect this bill to be signed," he said.

Rep. Don Young, an Alaska Republican, agreed the measure would be signed after it goes through conference committee to work out differences with the Senate version.

Young called it a "pretty good bill," but said it would need "fine-tuning" to ease restrictions on the oil industry.

During two days of debate, the House loaded its bill with amendments to strengthen its environmental language. The oil industry strongly fought the additions, arguing lawmakers were making oil hauling prohibitively expensive.

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New economic deal

Soviet team opens talks

BAGHDAD, Iraq, Nov 11, (AP): A Soviet delegation began talks with Iraqi leaders today on mapping out economic links until the end of the century, the state-run television network reported.

Oil Minister Issam Abdul Rahim Al Chalabi headed the Iraqi team and the Soviet delegation, which arrived Thursday, was led by Agan Begain, deputy chairman of the Soviet Academy of Economics and economics adviser to Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev.

The television gave no details of the talks. But diplomats said the Iraqis were likely seeking Soviet help to develop their oil and gas industries, lynchpin of

Iraq's economy.

The Soviet Oil and Gas Minister, Vladimir Chervosko, was scheduled to arrive in Baghdad Sunday for talks with Chalabi on co-operation in that field, Soviet officials reported.

Iraq has also been negotiating with Moscow to build advanced MIG fighters under licence as part of a major drive to build up its own aerospace industry.

It was not clear whether military industrialisation will be discussed in the current negotiations. But Baghdad has given priority to developing this sector following the ceasefire last year in the 8-year war with Iran.

The senior Soviet trade official in Baghdad, Anatoli Koltitain, said last week that the talks were aimed at drawing up an economic co-operation plan between Moscow and Baghdad until the year 2000.

The Soviet Union is Iraq's major arms supplier and a key trading partner. Last year, non-military trade between the two countries totalled \$2 billion.

Iraq's military debt to Moscow is an estimated \$4-5 billion. Koltitain last week played down Iraq's military debt and said Baghdad was making repayments regularly "after we reached agreement of that last year."

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Iraq's economy.

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BUSINESS

Ministers differ on exchange policy

NICOSIA, Nov 11, (Reuters): Iran's finance minister, contradicting a cabinet colleague, said on Friday the government would continue efforts to launch a month ago to bring order to the foreign exchange market.

Minister Momen Nourbakhsh told Iranian television that state banks would go on selling foreign exchange at a new "competitive rate" set daily by the Central Bank with the aim of stimulating trade and industrial production.

Commerce Minister Abdolhossein Vahdani had said earlier the government would fix the competitive rate next week at a set figure.

"The aim is not to reach a fixed exchange rate, but rather to use instruments which will give producers and exporters a clear picture of the foreign exchange market and its future," Nourbakhsh said.

The competitive rate was introduced on Oct 8 at 1,000 rials to the dollar. It was marked down to 975 rials on October 24 and has been maintained at that level since.

This compares with an official rate hovering around 72 rials to the dollar.

Tehran newspapers said purchases of foreign exchange at the new rate slowed down as the qualified buyers — public sector enterprises and private importers of selected items — were waiting for the central bank to lower the rate further.

Tehran Radio had quoted Vahdani as saying on Wednesday that the competitive rate would be fixed to end the uncertainty. Traders on the officially-tolerated open market marked down their dollars by 20 per cent in the first two weeks of government intervention.

Nourbakhsh said speculation had pushed up the open market rates of foreign currencies in recent days but the trend would be reversed.

Businessmen importing goods not covered by the government plan as well as travellers have to rely on the open market for their foreign currency needs.

Poling named new chairman

DEARBORN, Mich., Nov 11, (Reuters): The Ford Motor Company yesterday named Harold Poling as its next chairman, replacing Donald Petersen who will retire next March 1.

The appointment of Poling, the present vice-chairman, was something of a surprise because Allan Gilmour was recently promoted to the number-three spot at Ford and was mooted as a possible choice to take over the helm. Gilmour had been given much credit for masterminding Ford's recent earnings surge.

Petersen, 63, was chief executive officer or chief operating officer for 10 years and had been due to retire in September 1991. His successor is 64 and is expected to serve a three-year term.

At a news conference, Ford officials said they were working towards an orderly transition of power as the automaker seeks to maintain its industry-leading growth in profits and sales.

During Petersen's tenure, Ford's profits rose to record levels, surpassing those of archrival number-one General Motors Corp., and Ford's US market share grew considerably.

Petersen said with his voice breaking with emotion, "ten years are up and it's time to step back. This is not going to be anything in the way of a significant change," he said, pointing out that he had been working closely with Poling in the past few years.

The company also announced that Philip Benton, currently president of Ford automotive group, will become president and chief operating officer.

As Willy Brandt, a former West German chancellor and mayor of West Berlin when the wall was built in 1961, said yesterday: "Things will never be the same again."

That has set policy-makers throughout Europe scurrying to answer a series of fundamental economic questions posed by even-
tual reunification or simply an opening up of East Germany to Western-style international trade.

How should the European Economic Community react? Its executive commission in Brussels appeared to have been caught off guard this week and sent out a series of conflicting signals. The topic is set to dominate December's EEC summit in Strasbourg.

How can the East German economy, as much the locomotive of the Eastern bloc as West Germany is that of the European Economic Community, be reformed at a time when its highly trained work force is shrinking by the day? Currency reform is another huge problem confronting East and West German policy-makers.

How will the West in future treat the transfer of sensitive high technology to the East? The United States has already found itself under attack from its Western partners for being too restrictive in CoCom, the Paris-based body that seeks to control how tech-

nology is sold to the Warsaw Pact.

Politicians, economists and political analysts alike are wary of coming up with answers to any of these questions. But faced with the prospect of a new economic order in Europe are working overtime to formulate policy.

Klaus Winters, chief economist at West-deutsche Landesbank Girozentrale in Dusseldorf projects that an influx of 600,000 refugees from East Germany and other East bloc states next year could boost West German growth by half a percentage point.

But a drastic shortage of housing could push up inflation and interest rates, each by 0.3 percentage points.

Fed seeks stress-fighting measures

NEW YORK, Nov 11, (AP): The latest easing of credit by the US Federal Reserve has been greeted with something short of all-out elation on Wall Street.

Just about every Fed-watcher in the financial world agreed that the Central Bank sent out signals this past week that it was relaxing its credit policy further, continuing a series of moves in that direction over the past several months.

But analysts' readings of the motivations for that step were not so unanimous.

The first, and most popular, interpretation was that the Fed was satisfied with the progress of recent efforts to keep inflation in check, and saw a

change to cushion the potential impact of a slowing economy.

That view offered reassurance to investors who have been worried that the recent dropoff in corporate earnings might be a portent of more bad news to come on profits and a possible recession in early 1990.

Some observers, however, suggested that it wasn't inflation that was uppermost in Fed policymakers' minds, but rather concern in some form about a possible deflationary situation.

Since late summer many a wary eye has been focused on the market for junk bonds, high-yielding securities used to finance buyouts and other deals, amid signs that the lending boom of the late 1980s might be ending.

At the same time, a massive campaign continues to unscramble the problems of the nation's network of savings institutions.

And less specific worries lately have been voiced about the potential effects of weak real estate markets in places such as the northeast, where the market for properties had been rising for a long time.

"The Federal Reserve does not need a credit crisis," said James Grant in the issue published Friday of his newsletter Grant's Interest Rate Observer.

Grant posited the theory that "inflation is guiding monetary policy in most of the world's financial centres, but deflation is calling the tune in ours."

Such talk, combined with worries about profit disappointments at many companies, kept the stock market on the defensive in the past week.

The Dow Jones average of 30 industrial stocks slipped 3.90 to 2,625.61.

The New York Stock Exchange composite index rose 0.62 to 187.90; the Nasdaq composite index for the over-the-counter market gained 2.82 to 455.79, and the American Stock Exchange market value index was down 0.32 at 371.47.

Volume on the Big Board averaged 148.76 million shares a day, against 148.18 million the week before.

The potential hazards of "leverage" — large amounts of debt in many forms — in the American economy have been

debated on Wall Street for years. But lately there have been several signs that concern about the situation has been increasing.

For one thing, the calm news on inflation of late would not explain why the prices of gold and gold-mining stocks have rallied in recent days. But heightened worries about deflation could well account for the upswing in precious metals.

Published commentaries by several brokerage firms have recently broached the term "financial distress."

"Some of the words that define financial distress seem appropriate today," observed Hugh Johnson at First Albany Corp. "They would

include uneasiness, apprehension, tension, stringency, pressure, uncertainty and fragility."

Some of the main concerns Johnson cites touch on a familiar theme: "as the economy slows, highly leveraged companies will have difficulty making debt service payments, and investors will have difficulty in arranging for financing to acquire companies."

"From time to time," he says, there are likely to be "shocks to the financial system."

"Fortunately," he adds, "we feel that they, for the most part, are manageable — if many shocks do not occur simultaneously. Financial distress and rising stock prices are not mutually exclusive."

Moscow striving for competition

Soviets must slash huge cash surplus: Fed

SAN ANTONIO, Texas, Nov 11, (AP): The Soviet Union is moving toward a market economy but must first slash a huge cash surplus and the budget deficit that the money has underwritten, US Federal Reserve board chairman Alan Greenspan said yesterday.

"It was very clear to me what we were dealing with was a group of people whose interest was to move ahead," Greenspan said of a recent trip to the Soviet Union. "They want to be in competition with us."

He spoke to about 40 financial leaders before touring the local branch of the Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas with US rep. Henry B. Gonzalez of San Antonio, chairman of the House Banking Committee.

It is too early to tell what might

happen as a result of current changes in communist countries, said Greenspan, calling political events in Poland, Hungary, East Germany and the Soviet Union "extraordinarily startling."

"Things are moving before our eyes at a pace that almost is blinding," Greenspan said.

During his visit in October, Greenspan said, Soviet leaders, whose economy is "deteriorating," were interested in talking about markets rather than political or economic ideologies.

If Soviet price controls are lifted, runaway inflation could occur because there is a cash excess totalling about 300 billion rubles, Greenspan said. Most of the surplus is in savings accounts held by Soviet people, he added.

One option the Soviets are considering is selling apartments

or possibly land to absorb the money. Another option, Greenspan said, is getting cash-holders to buy long-term financial instruments, such as 10-year bonds.

But to convince them to make such purchases, interest rates of more than 10 per cent probably would be needed, Greenspan said.

The Soviet Union also is trying to confront the source of the cash excess — a large government deficit, he said, adding that state monopolies also must be dealt with.

From what he learned in the Soviet Union, Greenspan said, there is support in the military for the shifts taking place. The Soviet military is largely apolitical, he said, and realises a strong technological base is the key to its progress.

Bank warns of a recession

UK market shows renewed confidence

LONDON, Nov 11, (UPI): Equities on the London International Stock Exchange ended the week on a firm note, buoyed by the brighter outlook for interest rates in the United States, which helped keep sterling balanced.

The Financial Times Stock Exchange 100-share index reached 2216.7 points at the close Friday, up 15.0 points on the session and 43.6 points on the week. The Financial Times 30 index stood at 1773.0 points, up 8.7 on the day and up 26.6 points since the previous Friday.

A Bank of England warning of a recession if wage settlements remained high made little impact.

Shares in the banking sector equities bank were particularly strong on further reaction to debt provision moves by Lloyds and National Westminster.

Analysts said investors were awaiting Chancellor John Major's autumn statement on the economy, which he will deliver Wednesday to the House of Commons, but the market showed renewed confidence

Bank of England destroys notes

LONDON, Nov 11, (Reuters): The Bank of England is destroying banknotes with a face value of £25 million (\$40 million) after uncovering an embarrassing printing error.

A spokesman said the bank realised too late that five million £5 (\$7.5) notes carrying the portrait of steam pioneer George Stephenson incorrectly gave the date of his death as 1843.

Stephenson, inventor of the steam locomotive, died in 1848.

"We would not put out banknotes with errors on them. They will be destroyed," the spokesman said.

He described as speculative a newspaper report that the printing cost of the dud notes came to some £180,000 (\$270,000).

After an early 20 point gain

Monday, the FT-SE fell back when Wall Street declined at its opening.

The first day of official trading in shares of Euro Disneyland saw equities leap 172p to close at 879p. At one point Euro Disneyland reached 890p.

Merchant bank shares benefited from the confirmation that Morgan Grenfell had started talking with Barclays de Zoete Wedd in hopes of fending off a takeover attempt by Banque Indosuez of France.

Morgan Grenfell rose 63p to 468p while Hambros was up 10p to 228p. Kleinwort Benson added 13p to finish at 352p. Schroders jumped 50p to 1425p and SG Warburg rose 11p to 457p.

Share prices shrugged off a quiet opening Tuesday to finish with some excitement as renewed confidence in the pound and that interest rates have peaked combined with a Wall Street rally.

A downgrading by Hoare Govett and Charterhouse Tilney sent shares in Iceland frozen foods down sharply, closing 39p lower at 280p.

Argentina dealers suspend trading

BUENOS AIRES, Nov 11, (Reuters): Argentine police were deployed to Buenos Aires financial centre yesterday to clamp down on foreign currency speculation that sent the austral into a nosedive this week.

The police are curbing the operation in response to the decision by the President (Carlos Menem) to end speculation, a senior Interior Ministry source, who declined to be named, told Reuters.

Foreign exchange dealers suspended trade in the unofficial but widely traded parallel market where the austral had lost nearly 14 per cent against the US dollar since Monday.

When trading was suspended it stood at over 845 australs per dollar, against 730 at the start of the week. On Wednesday some dealers were asking over 900 australs to sell dollars.

Dealers attributed growing demand for hard currency, a traditional shelter from high inflation for Argentine investors, to fears over the future of the four-month-old Peronist government's economic stabilisation programme in the face of mounting labour unrest.

Problems with trades unions, the traditional Peronist

power base, worsened this week when bus drivers staged a nation-wide strike, stranding millions of workers and causing huge traffic jams by blocking main access roads.

The government has accused leftwing groups of stirring up labour unrest and pledged not to alter its economic policies.

Menem warned railway workers he would close down any lines brought to a standstill by a strike originally scheduled for Friday, but now planned for next week.

Merchant seamen, gas, petrochemical and some airline employees also went on strike this week. The powerful metalworkers union has called for industrial action next week unless there is a breakthrough in deadlocked wage talks.

When Menem took office in July he ordered massive utility price rises, tax increases and negotiated a price and wage freeze with businesses and unions in a bid to combat record inflation of 200 per cent a month.

But much of the union movement argued salaries never recovered ground lost in the hyperinflationary crisis towards the end of former President Raul Alfonsin's administration.

the policy is now firmly to push ahead with closer integration of the 12 Western European nations. But should associate membership be offered to East Germany, Poland and Hungary?

The opening of the East German border on Thursday evening raises the prospect of far closer ties between the two Germanies even if the one nation remains anchored to the NATO Western alliance and the other to the Warsaw Pact.

There are only few trade barriers now and a series of special trade agreements. A still close relationship could make East Germany a de facto associate member of the EEC.

Economists calculate the two Germanies could make up more than 33 per cent of the total gross national product of such a community, a far more dominant position than Bonn's current 26 per cent and nearly as much as France and Italy combined.

Political analysts say the economic reform models used in Hungary and Poland could be counter-productive in East Germany.

Through the Eastern bloc, the spirit of liberalisation has prompted leaders to devalue their currencies in an attempt to stamp out the black market and establish a more realistic exchange rate as a prelude to convertibility in the West. That inevitably devalues East bloc savings and leads to inflation.

West German Finance Minister Theo Waigel said yesterday that: "A currency union can only be reached if the East German mark is brought into a sensible relationship with the West German mark and, of course, if East Germany has undergone decisive financial, monetary and economic reforms."

The East German mark is theoretically equal in value to the West German mark but in practice worth about one tenth and price rises caused by an effective devaluation would be hard to take.

"The immediate reaction to price rises might well be to say to hell with it and cross the border into West Germany where the constitution guarantees the right to a passport," said one West German analyst.

Wall Street watch



Hosni Mubarak

Mubarak outlines economic reforms

CAIRO, Nov 11, (Reuters): President Hosni Mubarak, in a major policy speech today, spelled out plans for economic reform to include freeing the public sector, closing the import-export gap and tackling the country's huge bureaucracy.

"We have accomplished a great deal over a period of eight years," he told the opening session of the people's assembly or parliament. "But however great is the ground we have covered, we are still at the beginning of the road."

Mubarak outlined what he called an accurate plan to reform the economy, plagued by heavy foreign debt, rising prices, and low living standards.

The public sector would be given greater management freedom and have to meet specific production targets while incentives would be given to the private sector, he said.

"There will be no discrimination between the public and private sector," Mubarak told the parliament.

Egypt would also have to close the gap between imports and exports by increasing local production and by exporting finished goods rather than raw materials and semi-finished goods.

He said the value of exports rose to \$2.7 billion in 1988-89 from \$1.6 billion in 1986-87 — figures given publicly for the first time.

With other hard currency earners like transfers by expatriate workers, tourism, the Suez Canal and oil, total foreign currency resources were \$6.1 billion in 1988-89.

But imports rose to \$10.6 billion, including \$1.1 billion on wheat imports and another \$2.1 billion on consumer goods, he added.

"It is dangerous to fill the gap through borrowing from abroad, because it will only increase our foreign debt within a few years," he warned.

Egypt has total foreign debt of \$50 billion and has been unable to repay debt or interest since mid-1988.

He also had harsh words for the bureaucracy which "seeks to make the easy difficult and the possible impossible."

Egypt's foreign exchange revenues for the year totalled \$6.1 billion while imports cost \$10.6 billion.

NBK weekly market review

Dollar looks set to gain strength

KUWAIT, Nov 11, (Kuna): The US trade figures, due out next week, are expected to evidence continuing slowdown in the American economy and coupled by fears of a rise in Japanese official interest rates, the dollar is expected to trade within its current range, a specialised report predicted here today.

However, the National Bank of Kuwait, said in its weekly preview of international money markets that in case of a reduction in last month's widened US trade figures, the American currency may slightly firm.

The weekly report made note of the gradualist approach by the US Federal Reserve to interest rate levels and said that despite continued pressure on the Central Bank from the US administration to ease its policy such as to ensure the current economic slowdown does not change into recession, the Federal Reserve's stance to relaxation is unlikely to alter.

A slight easing in the Federal Reserve's credit stance appears evident with the target for federal funds rate down to 8.5 per cent from 8.75 per cent. Speculated to have been triggered by the weak consumer credit figure, a number of regional banks followed by cutting their prime rates, it indicated.

Reporting on the currency's performance this week, it said that the dollar has continued to trade within a narrow range drifting slightly firmer. The higher than forecast PPI number was largely accounted for by the greater increase in food prices and had virtually no effect on the markets, the NBK weekly report indicated.

Equities have had a volatile week prompted by fears over the reticence of the Federal Reserve to

ease policy sufficiently to offset the current slowing economic trend. However treasury bonds moved a little higher by weekend on the Fed's action.

On the pound sterling, the report said with the new chancellor of the exchequer sufficiently establishing his economic credentials in Britain, the initial uncertainty of a new man at the financial helm has eased. Consequently, sterling has been supported this week by the UK's high interest rate levels, being seen currently as a high yielding currency.

The consumer borrowing figure for September showed the smallest increase since November 1986 providing further evidence that the government's high interest rate policy is taking effect.

Although retail sales were slightly more than originally estimated it was the lowest level since June 1982 endorsing the slowing trend.

The Bank of England's latest quarterly bulletin warning that current wage settlement levels threaten a recession had little impact on the markets, it remarked.

The pound is expected to continue to benefit from the current interest rate differentials. As previously stated the need to raise interest rates any higher has receded although any reduction is unlikely to take place before the budget in March of next year, the National Bank of Kuwait reported.

Concerning the German currency, the report said the historic decision by East Germany to allow freedom of exit and entry does cause policy concerns for West Germany.

The influx of East German immigrants to the West will undoubtedly put significant upward pressure on aggregate demand.

Iran to buy new buses and planes

NICOSIA, Cyprus, Nov 11, (AP): Iran's Minister of Transport, Mohammad Saedi-Kya, said today his country will purchase 20,000 buses and up to 10 big and small airplanes in the next five years, Tehran television reported.

The broadcast, monitored in Nicosia, quoted Saedi-Kya as saying that the new buses and planes will be needed to meet the demands of Iran's rapidly growing population.

He said that 4,000 railway cars will be manufactured in Iran to expand the country's train network, the television reported.

It quoted Saedi-Kya as saying that the country's national carrier, Iran Air, will be purchasing "five or six Airbus-type planes in the next five years."

The carrier already flies a number of aging Boeing aircraft, as well as some newer Airbus planes.

The minister said that the domestic airline, Iran-Aseman, will be buying four smaller aircraft. The carrier currently has Cessnas and other small planes.

He said that 4,000 train wagons will be manufactured in Iran for the railway network.

Iran's 3.7 per cent annual population growth rate is among the fastest in the world.

The current 50 million population increases by 1.8 million every year. At the present growth rate, the population will double in 20 years.

Pledge to pursue economic changes

'We are seeking sustainable growth'

ANKARA, Nov 11, (Reuters): New Turkish Prime Minister Yildirim Akbulut, greeted by howls of abuse from opposition Members of Parliament, vowed yesterday to press ahead with economic modernisation.

"(Our programme) is to continue and complete our plans since we came to power in 1983," said Akbulut, chosen premier in succession to Turgut Ozal who was inaugurated as president on Thursday.

Listing the achievements of the ruling Motherland Party, Akbulut said it had brought to Turkey "a peaceful and civilised environment for debate." But opposition deputies hurled copies of Akbulut's 60-page government and economic programme at him before storming out of the chamber shouting "bastard" (yes-man secretary).

Akbulut and his cabinet, little changed from Ozal's, are almost certain to win a vote of confidence on Wednesday in parliament, where the Motherland has a clear majority.

Senior ministers told Reuters that Gunes Taner and Isin Celebi, two key state ministers in charge of the state-dominated economy, were likely to keep their portfolios.

"The main thought of the coming period is anti-inflationist, but we are seeking sustainable growth," State Minister Isin Celebi told Reuters.

The hallmarks of Ozal's success would be pursued, Akbulut said. Capital and currency markets and telecommunications would be strengthened and modernised.

Bombay shares

Alcan Chem	296	297	292	King Eng	122.50	122.50	125
Alw Nis	—	—	—	Kir Cumu	69.50	69	69.50
Art Fab	—	—	—	KSB Pumps	197.50	192.50	197.50
Ashok Ley	91	91	90	L & T	—	—	—
Asia Paint	206.25	205	207.50	Mahindra	102.30	101	103
Atlas Cop	45.50	44	44	Mas Share	116	15.25	16
Auto Corp	—	68	70	Mazda	750	730	730
Nau Index	385.81	387	383.00	Milford	197.50	195	200
Bajaj Auto	332.50	337.50	327.50	Modi	76	78	77
Bar Rayon	730	720	707.50	Lincol	92	93.50	92
Blow Plast	—	—	—	Mas Russel	150	165	167.50
Bom Dye	138.50	139	137	Mud Cor	101	100	105
BK Bond	105.104	107.50	105	MRF Ltd	337.50	337.50	337.50
Burr Wal	95	90	92.50	MRF Ltd	141	139	140
Cambare	—	—	—	Nocil	1250	1270	1270
Can Enka	3350	3300	3325	Nat Org	—	—	47
Indes for 10/11	2540	2530	2525	Nippon	48	48	48
Com Sps	191.25	188.75	191.25	Orkay	16.25	16	15.75
DCM	13	12	13	Oswal Agro	65	65	64
Deep Fert	28	27.50	27	Pilzer	74	74	74
El Hotel	67	68	70	Ponds	182.50	180	182.50
El Hotel	67	65	66	Prum Auto	60.50	61	61
Esports	77.25	77	77.50	Raxbury	97	92.50	95
RSE Index	720.25	—	708.00	Ray Wool	68.75	68	67.5
Eskayel	116.25	117.50	116.25	Reckitt	187.50	187.50	190
Esports	77.25	77	77.50	Redstone	82	83	87.50
Food Sps	105	105	105	Sea Goa	59.50	60	55
Forbes	50	48	50	Shaw Wall	—	—	—
Gar Poly	56	55.50	54	Shree Gan	—	—	—
Gladin	103	100.50	102	Sfrt Fib	—	—	—
GNFC	32.50	33	32.25	Siemens	74	72	74
Gradin	109	111	109	SKF	1290	1280	1300
Indes for 10/11	2540	2530	2525	Solec	585	585	48.50
GE Sps	46.50	47	43.85	St Mills	495	48	50
GNFC	177.50	178.75	175	Tata Oil	68	67.50	71.25
GNFC	74.50	73.75	74.25	Tata Chem	117.50	120	116
Guj Heavy	10.50	9	10.50	Tata Pow	380	380	372.50
Hero Honda	18	17	18	Telco	1040	1042.5	1030
Hero Honda	970	970	970	Thappo Org	114	114	112.25
Hero Lander	105	104	102.50	Vam Org	160	160	155
Hero Honda	142.50	140	143.50	Vareli	23.75	21.25	22.50
Hero Motor	23.50	26	26	Voltas	925	915	930
Hindale	26	26.50	26.5	Winco	52	52	52.5
Hochsch	1410	1400	1410	Zenith	55	53	54
Ingersoll	412.50	205	215	Zuari Agro	75	76	74
Ind Org	70.50	70	69				
ITC	48.75	48.50	47.50				

Compiled by Kuwait-India International Exchange Co.



Emperor Akbar talks to Anarkali after having her brought from the garden.



The Darbar dancers perform at the opening of the play.

Photographs by Saeed Al Khaldi

Lavish drama by Nathana enthalls audience

A LAVISHLY produced dance drama "Anarkali" was presented by the Nathana Dance School of Prameela Surendran at the Indian Arts Circle on Thursday.

The dialogue was in Malayalam, but the producers thoughtfully provided a synopsis in English before each scene so that non-Keralites could follow the action.

The historical story takes place in 16th century India and is about the life of a noble Persian girl Nadira who flees her country on the death of her father and eventually reaches the north Indian town of Agra, where her mother dies. The orphan girl is then sheltered by a priest on the orders of Prince Salim, the

son of Emperor Akbar. She later becomes a servant at the court.

One day the emperor happens to see Nadira gathering flowers. He paternally asks her about her life, names her Anarkali after the flower she was gathering, and appoints her as maid-in-waiting to Princess Ambika Devi, the wife of Prince Salim.

Anarkali falls in love with the handsome prince, and he with her. As days go by and their paths cross, the Emperor discovers their secret when Anarkali falters during a dance before the court and expels her from the palace.

One day Anarkali goes secretly to

Prince Salim's room with a letter warning him that his life was in danger. To their misfortune the Emperor enters and demands to see the note, but Anarkali tears it and refuses to reveal the message. In anger, the emperor has her placed in a small stone prison, with three stones removed for the prisoner to breathe.

The Emperor again demands to know the message, and each time Anarkali refuses a stone is put in place. The audience watched in horror as the prison was sealed.

The drama ends with the Emperor in agony because of his decision and its consequences.

Prameela Surendran gave a fine per-

formance, her face and actions expressing cynicism, humility, sorrow and fear. N.G.K. Nair was a personification of the dignified, compassionate but stern Emperor Akbar. Balram Chowdhary as Prince Salim, Sindu Appukuttan as Princess Ambika Devi, and other members of the cast also performed well, but their roles did not call for a special display of their talents.

The court musicians were in good form. The background music matched and enhanced the mood and action.

The play did not include many classical dance numbers. There was a dance in the first scene by the two Darbar

Another dance early in the play was by Shabari Appukuttan in the role of Maya, Prince Salim's secret love.

Anarkali performed a fairly long dance before Emperor Akbar's court towards the end of the play, but it was not long enough for Prameela Surendran to display her excellent dancing. Some other short dances, only whetted the appetite.

The stage backdrops were colourful and the settings lavish. The throne and court of Emperor Akbar and the palace garden, for instance, helped the audience feel the atmosphere of 16th century India.

The Moghul costumes, from head-

dress to slippers, were flown from India specially for this single performance, and added grandeur and authenticity to the scenes.

The dance drama was performed before an appreciative audience that filled the IAC hall.

It is a pity there was only one performance of this colourful, impressive play after the obvious expense and effort of the producers and the hard work of the actors and back-stage helpers. But it was a labour of love and they probably felt even one performance was worthwhile.

We look forward to the next production by Nathana.

TELEVISION PROGRAMMES

KTV 1

MORNING

9.30 The Opening and Holy Quran

9.45 Sabah Al Kheir News and Variety

9.50 Around the World: Cartoon Serial

10.05 Magazine D'Actualite (repetition)

10.15 Fi Muntasaf Al Lail: Local Serial (Part 3)

11.15 Sabah Al Kheir News and Variety

11.30 That's Incredible: Variety Programme

12.30 News Summary

12.35 Holy Quran and Closedown

EVENING

4.00 The Opening and Holy Quran

4.15 The World Today via Satellite (repetition)

4.45 Alice in Wonderland: Cartoon serial

5.15 Night Chemists, Airlines and Official Advertisements

6.00 Al Islam Hadhara: Religious Serial (Part 6)

7.15 Diwanat Shuara Al Nabat: Local Programme

8.00 Hwar Ilmi: Cultural Programme, presented by Yousif Al Sultan, and prepared by Khatib Chemists Society

8.30 Good Evening and Local News

9.00 News in Arabic

9.45 Tareq Min Al Sama:

Arabic Serial (Part 7)

10.30 Rai Al Sami: Bedouin serial (Part 7), Starring Abeer Issa, Roubi Al Safadi, Amal Al Dabbas and Anwar Khaleel

11.45 News Summary

11.50 The World Today via Satellite

12.15 Holy Quran and Closedown

KTV 2

6.00 Opening Announcement & Holy Quran

6.10 The Three Stooges. A cartoon series for children

6.30 Munsters Today

"Green Eyed Munster." Louis convinces Herman's wife to participate in a contest so she starts training. Herman is neglected.

7.00 Weird And Wonderful. A look at the history of primitive Australia and the European invasion...

8.00 News in English.

8.30 Bergerac. "A Perfect Decapture." Chief Inspector West of Scotland Yard, arrives in Jersey on the trail of England's most wanted criminal.

9.30 Sea Power. A look at the development of warships and their son providing with weapons and guns throughout his-

tory...sailing ships, steam ships, and ships equipped with atomic energy.

10.00 The Robert Guillaume Show "You Win Some, You Lose Some." Dr Edward receives in his clinic a number of husbands and wives who keep them discuss their problems freely and openly.

10.30 Bestseller. The Bourne Identity. A man finds himself in a doctor's clinic after being shot. He loses his memory and start searching to find his identity.

12.00 News in Brief

12.15 Magazine D'Actualite

WHAT'S ON

ARTS

Islamic Art

A SIX week - 12 lecture course on Islamic Art will be given in English at the Dar Al Athar Al Islamiyyah on Sunday and Tuesday mornings from 10.00 - 12.00 noon, October 29 through December 5, 1989.

An eight week - eight lecture course on Islamic Art will be given in Arabic at the Dar Al Athar Al Islamiyyah on Monday afternoons from 4.00 - 6.00 pm from October 30 through December 19, 1989.

To register for either of these courses please sign up at the Dar Al Athar during museum hours 8.30 am - 12.30 pm.

Watercolour painting

LEARN watercolour painting with Patricia Mills. New 8 week course in drawing and painting for adults. For details Tel: 5618847.

Hobby centre

New Courses in Jewellery making and design for adults. For children there is Pottery

starting next month for 6 weeks. Tel: 5618847, 5317354.

Sultan Gallery

A COLLECTION of abstract art by Saudi Arabian artist Faisal Samra is on show at the Sultan Gallery, Samra, who experiments with space and form, is exhibiting for the second time in Kuwait. His first exhibition was in 1987. The show is open Saturday to Thursday from 10 am to 1 pm and 5 to 8 pm, until Nov 15.

SOCIAL

Star Nite

DEC 21: Star Nite Stepping Stones have stepped in and with Perfect Strangers it's going to be a nite to Celebrate Yuletide. Fun fare for children and variety programme for others starting from 5-8.30 pm and goes on from 9 pm until sumptuous buffet mid-night. A galore of prizes with Hamper lucky draws under 555 sponsorship invitations with Shop No. 34 ex New Super Market and contact Tel. 5331940, 2413706 Res.

Navellim Youth Centre

NOV 16: An annual get-together nite with live music from "Stepping Stones and Top Ranks" having lots more amusements, surprises awaiting at Le Mirage ballroom - Ramada Al Salam Hotel. Contact: Mr Alex - 2426334, Mr Marian - 2416945.

Navellim feast

The feast of Our Lady of Rosary, Navellim will be celebrated on 15.11.89, at the Holy Family Cathedral at 7.15 am.

Daniella Bingo

NOV 15, 8 pm: Daniella invites all Danes to Bingo games at the Gazelle club. For reservations please call Inge on 3727690 ext 207 or Karen Marie on 3715146 before November 13.

FLASSIK's love drive

CANNED goods and second hand clothes are needed for FLASSIK's love drive. Blankets and winter wear are desperately needed for FLASSIK's welfare beneficiaries. Kindly contact any FLASSIK officer if you have any donations.

FLASSIK's Christmas Project

FLASSIK invites everyone to its December project, a Christmas Carol Concert featuring the famous melodiously-talented Filipino Choir under its director Gilda Navarro.

Kuwait Geans

DEC 15: Annual children's Xmas tree function will be held at the Messilah Beach Hotel on Friday, December 15, '89 from 9.30 am onwards. Lots of prizes and surprises awaits for one and all. Top Ranks in attendance.

To avoid disappointment

call for your early bookings on 2413348.

People's Trust Club

DEC 29: People's Trust Club welcomes you to a day of your life at Ramada Al Salam (Marriott) Hotel, New Ballroom from 10.30 am onwards. Nimble feet, hungry palate, perfect blend of music and style. A get-together with buffet. Featuring Stepping Stones, Top Ranks, Perfect Strangers. There will be novelty and surprises galore. Contact Columbus on 4348218.

Carnival Night

The long waited Carnival Night will be held for the first time in Kuwait with popular bands "Top Ranks" and "Perfect Strangers" vibrating up the Carnival Spirit to bring out their best music ever. So all you folks look ahead for more details through this column for the precise date in the month of February, 1990.

Musical Show

DEC 1: Musical Entertainment show at Doha Entertainment City in 'Starlight Theatre' with Live Rock 'n' Roll, Pop and Reggae music from the most popular and dynamic beat groups of Kuwait.

"Top Ranks" and "Next of Kins."

The Highlights: Fancy dress competition, live stage performance of jive, break dance and solo dancing by Joe Misquita, Tony and their dancing group. Including many surprises.

For complete details Twinkle on: 4879455 ext. 298 (4 pm to 9 pm); Hilary, 2649442; John Philip, 2546890 (after 8 pm); Tom and Luisa, 2661370.

For tickets contact: Andrew at Dreamland Tailor's, 1st

floor, above Raja Stores, opp. Casara Exchange.

NB: Transportation is available.

Yuletide Fayre

Do not miss the Yuletide Fayre being organised by St Paul's Church, Ahmadi from 2 pm to 5 pm on the afternoon of Friday, 1st December at the British embassy compound.

There will be stalls for Christmas gifts, handicrafts and books as well as for cakes and preserves. There will be entertainment, including Santa Claus, for the children. Refreshments will be available. (Admission: 250 fils, children: free).

Rock 'n' Roll

Nov 22: Spend a night of nostalgia with music from 1955-1965 provided by "High Spirits" at the Messilah Beach Hotel. Fulfill your fantasy and dress as your favourite star of the era or just dress up. Also B.B.Q. and prizes. For details please contact 5624111 ext 711, 712 or 705

Get together

DEC 22: Southerners welcome you once again to a family get-together at Le Mirage Hall at the Ramada Al Salam Hotel at 10 am.

Thursday Night Fever

The Filipino Ladies Association in Kuwait will hold another interaction evening for the beneficiaries of its welfare projects which it conducts in coordination with the Welfare officer of the Overseas Workers' Welfare Administration.

The evening promises rhythmically pulsating dance music for all dance floor aficionados. The project is entitled "Thursday Night Fever" and is scheduled to be held on Thursday, the 30th of November 1989 at 5.30 pm at the Meridien Hotel's Al-Jahra Ballroom.

Tickets are available at KD3.500 from FLASSIK officers and other outlets: Far East Restaurant, Kabayan Restaurant, Mabuhay Restaurant, Bobby's Gift Shoppe. For particulars, kindly contact Chary Nepomuceno at tel. 5624509, Marilyn Inducivo at tel. 3940600 ext. 4521 and 2254; RC Ruiz, Tel. No. 4849400 ext 298 and 4819920, Rose For-

Hatid-Saya show today

ONCE again, top comedian and TV host Bert Marcelo is leading a star-studded troupe to bring entertainment to overseas Filipino workers. Sponsored by the Overseas Workers Welfare Administration with the support of the private sector, the group left the Philippines at the end of October for various whistle-stop concerts in Italy, Switzerland, Bahrain, Singapore and other parts of Europe and the Middle East.

It is composed of Nova Villa (who had to take a three-week leave from her morning programme at Radio Veritas and her top rating TV sitcom "Chika Chika Chicks"). Dulce, Cherie Gil, Ricky Belmonte, Jeffrey Coronel and the comic duo, Romeo Vargas and Renata Gomez. Sheryl Cruz, whose career is on the upswing with "Bibag and Babagang Ito," was originally part of the entourage but her producer, Robby Tan, put his foot down at the last minute. Her absence, he said, would jeopardise the box-office potential of her movie.

Dubbed as "Hatid-Saya", the project has been likened to Bob Hope's regular mission of entertaining homesick American troops in US bases and installations. The project is not lacking in critics who believe that finances for the government-backed trip should go to more essential projects. When "Hatid-Saya," for instance, left last year amid the destruction wrought by a killer typhoon, radio commentators had a heyday criticising the organisers for disregarding the needs of calamity victims. It was the height of vulgarity, they said, to go on with the show when so many others are suffering here at home.

But, asks Bert, is there any endeavour more meaningful than giving lonely Filipino workers abroad a taste of home and food for their soul? The comedian himself claims that "Hatid-Saya" is a big sacrifice on his part considering the showbiz deals

and opportunities he has to give up. But a pilgrimage, he says, is a pilgrimage. And nothing, Bert adds, will ever replace the experience of seeing overseas Filipinos responding happily to their shows. "Honorarium lang ang aming tinatanggap dito, pagmamahal at pagmamalasakit na lang ito para sa ating kababayan." Bert said at the farewell presentation of "Hatid-Saya" at the Met. "Kayo mang may mga kamag-anakang workers, sila mismo ang makapag-asabi sa inyo maligaya silang makakita ng kapwa nila Filipino." (Translation: "We are only receiving honorarium in this [four efforts here] are just borne out of love and self-sacrifice for our countrymen. Even you who have relatives who are workers abroad, they themselves will tell you how happy they are when they see fellow-Filipinos.")

There are suggestions for Bert to "quit" the programme but he would not hear of it. "Hindi ako makakaiwas dahil 'Hatid-Saya' was conceptualised with a comedian-host in mind. Deboysyon ko na ito. Nagpuunta ako sa mga giyera, sa Iraq halimbawa. Sino bang may gusto ng bombahan? Pero ok lang, this is a commitment." (Translation: I cannot avoid joining "Hatid-Saya" because it was conceptualised with a comedian-host in mind. This is already a devotion to me. I go to where there is war, Iraq for example. Who likes to be in the midst of war? But that's okay, this is a commitment.)

The project, incidentally, continues to raise funds for social welfare projects for overseas workers and their families. Now, isn't this a clear case of entertainment's role in helping improve the quality of people's lives?

With that, we say, "On with the show and see you there when it happens at the Kuwaiti Regency Palace today at 3.00 and 7.00 pm!"

mantes, tel. 4812348, Evelyn

Dungo, Tel 5312700 ext 4521.

Meanwhile FLASSIK

invites everyone to join their

"LOVE DRIVE." Used cloth-

ings, blankets, toiletries and

canned goods are welcome.

Please contact any FLASSIK

officers if you have any dona-

tions. And for those looking

forward to the yule season we

invite you to the "CHRIST-

MAS CAROL CONCERT"

under the talented conductress

Gilda Navarro and the Filipino

choir. Watch out for more

details.

Jazz Night

NOV 29: In response to over-

whelming demand, once again

Phil Thomas and the "High

Spirits" will be extending their

"Jazzical" repertoire for your

enjoyment. From 8pm to 12

midnight. Phone: 5640981.

Tribute to Hemant Kumar

IN FOND remembrance of

Hemant Kumar the Indian

Arts Circle, in association with

Bengali Cultural Society, is

arranging a musical evening at

the IAC Auditorium on Nov 16,

1989 at 8 pm. On this solemn

occasion leading singers of

Kuwait will pay tribute to

Hemant Kumar by rendering

his song.

Free entry passes will be

available from the IAC office.

For details contact 5621379,

2644863 or IAC 3904817.

SPORTS

Yoga morning classes

Messilah Beach Hotel yoga

morning classes will commence

Tuesday November 28th at

9.30 am, 5 classes KD10/- to

register contact 5624111 ext

739/751

Swimming/Life saving

Swimming/life saving courses

with Royal Life Saving

Society coach and grade 1

examiner will be commencing

at Messilah Beach Hotel club.

For more details please

phone ext. 739/751.



Honour lunch for Jehangir Bader

Pakistan People's Club (ladies wing) hosted lunch in honour of the wife of the Pakistani Minister of Petroleum & Natural Resources Jehangir Bader. Picture shows chief guest (fourth from right) and the host Riaz Ahmed Mahesar (sixth from right).



Cowboy Night at the Meridien Hotel

Cowboy Night every Sunday evening at the Meridien Hotel; taste Texas fare at La Brasserie. No compromise; this salute to the American West; which includes live country and western music plus decor and costumes to provide an ambience with more than a touch of the old west.

FILIPINO DIGEST

P100,000 worth of shabu seized:

At least P100,000 worth of shabu was found in the home of a jobless man who had been living a lavish lifestyle in San Juan.

The shabu was owned by Ramon Eleazar, 36, of 120 Capt. Manzano St. San Juan. But its source was not revealed by the suspect.

Eleazar's wife, Natty, tried to intimidate the arresting agents under Metro Manila Narcotics commander Lt. Col. Manuel Raval by saying she's the niece of a military general but Eleazar and the dope, plus paraphernalia for sniffing it, were taken to Narcom headquarters.

Raval told Narcom chief Col. Virgilio David that agents led by Lt. Jovito Magbanua and Sgt. Rey Laguz swooped down on Eleazar's home with a search warrant following tips by residents that he had just received a shipment of shabu.

The agents found the shabu, weighing 100 gram in a plastic bag in the drawer in his bedroom. In his car were a fragmentation grenade, a .38 revolver and a transistor set.

Raval told David that Eleazar operates in San Juan, Pasig, and Mandaluyong. Among his clients are businessmen and movie stars.

Eleazar had been arrested in Baguio in 1987, Raval added. Eleazar is at the Narcom jail in Camp Crame. The other agents in the raid were Freddie Futol, Sergeants Jaime Raposas, Edilberto Gatdula and Antonio Estacio and Cpl. Benjamin Vitug.

Three arrested for defying gun ban:

A government official, an Army soldier and another man were arrested by policemen for allegedly carrying their guns inside entertainment places in Quezon City.

Ronald Cosalan, 37, executive director of Northern Cultural Communities, his body guard Cpl. Florentino Tagay, 31, of the Philippine Army and Apollinaro de Asis, 37, were arrested in disco houses in Caloocan City and Quezon City.

Cosalan and Tagay were arrested by policemen led by Sgt. Enrique Madura and Cpl. Conrado Lapuz inside the International Club on Timog Ave. Quezon City at about 8:30 p.m. on Wednesday.

Cosalan yielded a .38 revolver and confiscated from Tagay was a .45 pistol.

De Asis was arrested an hour later inside the Numero Uno Disco on 11th Ave. Grace Park, Caloocan City.

Thai faces deportation:

The Commission on the Immigration and Deportation (CID) yesterday filed deportation proceedings against a Thai who had victimized two Filipino contract workers and is facing estafa charges in Thailand.

Immigration commissioner Bienvenido Alano, Jr. said Chakkrat Suwannasarn, 32, was arrested in his house at 4 Amsterdam St. Merville Subdivision, Paranaque.

Suwannasarn, managing director of Giorgio International Resources Agency with office at the PCI building at the corner of Buendia and Dian in Makati, has been wanted by the Thai police for estafa.

Suwannasarn allegedly issued a check for 15,000 baht and another for 373,000 baht. Thai police did not say if the two checks bounced.

Two contract workers — Romeo Turgo and Fernando Balagtas had filed complaints against Suwannasarn.

Turgo claimed he was recruited by Suwannasarn to work in a construction firm in Libya last year. He paid the Thai some P20,000 for his travel documents.

He left for Libya on April 10, 1988 and worked there for six months but was not paid his salaries.

Balagtas said that he was also recruited by Suwannasarn to work in Libya. He paid the Thai some P18,000 for his travel papers. But when he arrived in Libya he found that the original work contract he signed in the Philippines had been substituted.

Camarines families flee:

Legazpi City: The number of evacuees in Tinambac town, Camarines Sur has increased to 500 families as residents of remote Barangay Buayo and neighboring areas continued fleeing their homes for fear of communist guerrilla attacks.

A military report reaching Camp Bagong Ibalon said residents of Barangay Buayo started leaving their homes as early as last week after New People's Army (NPA) rebels massacred a family of three in the area.

Reported killed by NPA rebels were Sancho Diwata, an invalid, and his son Reynante, 12, and four-year-old Eric Competente.

The following day, the rebels executed Salvador Agsangre, a farmer of the same barangay, in front of horrified residents, it added.

The evacuees trooped in groups to the Buayo Elementary at the barangay proper, and some sought refuge at the residence of their relatives, it said.

The Department of Social Services and Development (DSSD) said it was conducting relief assistance at the Buayo Elementary School where the evacuees, most of them children, were housed.

Military troops were also sent to the area to secure the evacuees, it said.

2 men killed in Ermita shop robbery:

An employee and a security guard of a money exchange shop were stabbed and shot to death by two men and a woman who also robbed of P100,000.

Rafael dela Cruz, 52, of San Fernando, Macabebes, Pampanga and guard Danilo Azcueta, 23, of 1 Bangas St. Silvina village, Novales, Quezon City, both died from bullet wounds in the body and did not reach the Philippine General Hospital alive.

Capt. Generoso Javier said Dela Cruz and Azcueta were crossing over to Pedro Gil St. from Soldado St. in Ermita when the three attacked them.

A witness said the women took brown bag containing the money from the victims.

One of the two men took the 12-gauge shotgun of Azcueta.

The suspects walked toward Pedro Gil St. witnesses said.

One of the men was between 25 and 30, brown complexioned, of regular built and in dark coloured polo shirt. The other man was in white T-shirt.

Woman killed, 3 injured:

An old woman was killed and three other pedestrians were injured when a jeepney lost its brake, bumped a housewife and rammed a waiting shed in Binangonan, Rizal.

Killed was Lucena Ramos, 55, of Sitio San Juan, Barangay Kalawaan, Binangonan. Police said her head was smashed against the wall.

Seriously injured were Danilo Gabatan, 24, Elsa Valdez, 27, both of Sitio San Juan, Binangonan, and the Laurencio Maravillas, of Antipolo.

Police said Gabatan and Valdez suffered head injuries and Maravillas had broken bones in the different parts of the body.

Binangonan police chief Major Diosdado Ibanez said jeepney driver Roy Cenidoza, 22, of 1480 Paralelas St. Barangay Pila Pila, Binangonan surrendered.

Traffic investigators said the accident happened at 5 a.m. Cenidoza was heading for the EDSA — Shaw Blvd. intersection when he lost his brake in Sitio San Juan.

Cenidoza's jeepney hit Ramos, who was crossing to the other side. Due to the impact, the vehicle veered towards the waiting shed.

Cenidoza rushed the victims to the Angono District Hospital before giving himself up to the police.

Two arrested for robbery:

Capcom soldiers caught two men who had just robbed two students of cash and valuables in Ermita, Manila.

Bernie Aguilar, 21, and Reynaldo Gloria, 19, both of 46-E Santos Sumiling St. Pasig, poked knives at Lourdes de Leon, 18, of 11 San Jose St. Hulo, Mandaluyong, and her unidentified classmate while they were in a jeepney along Pedro Gil St.

As the suspects were about to flee, patrolling soldiers led by Constable Pedro Dayag saw them and gave chase.

Capt. Antonio Ibay told People's Journal that Capcom has been receiving complaints from students about rampant robberies in the vicinity of St. Paul College and the UP College of Medicine and Dentistry.

Bulacan cop slain: A policeman was shot dead by two suspected NPA hit men while waiting for the repair of his police jeep in Barangay San Roque, Angolan, Bulacan.

Pat. Sol Guerrero, 39, died on the spot from four gunshot wounds in the back and side of the body.

The gunmen took his .38 revolver and other personal belongings. They escaped in a tricycle and headed towards Dona Remedios Trinidad town, witnesses told police.

Tricycle driver Anastacio Reyes of Barangay San Roque told investigators that the suspects alighted at the foot of the Sta. Lucia bridge.

Earthquakes getting too close for comfort

WHEN a strong earthquake rocked San Francisco on the night of Oct. 17, Filipinos immediately worried about the safety of relatives and friends living around the Bay Area.

The worry has since turned to concern for some people as a series of power quakes began striking closer to home: at least four major earthquakes have shaken China, the Solomon Islands and Japan.

Uppermost in the minds of some Filipinos is the possibility that a major tremor might hit the country next.

But how real are such fears? Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology (Philvolcs) specialists say there is always a possibility that a major earthquake will strike since the Philippine archipelago lies between two of the world's nine major belts.

Belt are the edges of plates or crusts of the Earth that cracked. Motion along plate boundaries produces a series of rapid jerks or an earthquake.

Bartolome Santiago, Philvolcs seismology specialist, said in an interview that it is "highly possible" that a big earthquake will occur in the Philippines. A Philvolcs volcanologist agreed. But both of them would not hazard a guess as to when it would happen.

A Philvolcs study revealed that at least five earthquakes occur daily in the Philippines, but these either happen in remote parts of the country or are too weak to be perceived by people.

Bautista said cracks in the Earth's crust are caused by the movement of components about 30 to 40 kilometres below the surface which remains hot.

The belt of the Eurasian plate lies Southeast of the Philippines, while that of Pacific plate is located northeast. This makes the country one of the world's most "tectonically active," according to experts.

Earthquakes of tectonic origin frequently shake up parts of the country, as rocks beneath the surface suddenly break up in response to geological forces within the earth.

Another type of earthquake is the volcanic tremor caused by the eruption of a volcano.

However, Julio Sabit, Philvolcs volcanology specialist, said there is nothing much to fear from this type since it normally affects only areas near the volcano. It safety precautions are taken, destruction of lives and property would be minimal, he said.

When exactly will a big earthquake strike? Bautista said Philvolcs with its obsolescent instruments can only go as far as "probabilistic forecasting," meaning that its predictions are based on the laws of probability.

"Deterministic forecasting" which predicts the date, time and likely magnitude of an earthquake are still many years off, he said.

"This is a difficult, tricky business," Bautista said of earthquake forecasting.

To show how unpredictable earthquakes can be, Bautista recalled that seismologists expected a big quake to hit China long before it happened in 1976.

The scientists carefully monitored and recorded geological movements in the hope of finding a way to predict the occurrence of quakes with some accuracy. But when another earthquake struck a year later, it followed a com-

pletely different pattern, making the earlier study almost worthless.

Bautista said the recent earthquakes in the US, China, the Solomon Islands and Japan were not related. If they happened in quick succession it was only by chance, he said.

"Transmission of movement to far place like another country takes years," Bautista added.

Philvolcs records show that the Philippines has had its share of devastating earthquakes. Among the strongest and most destructive were the following:

● On June 3, 1862 an earthquake of intensity 10 on the Richter Scale struck Manila, killing at least 320 people.

● On July 18, 1880, another intensity 10 quake rocked Manila and 20 persons were reported killed.

● In March 1955, Lanao was hit by an earthquake of intensity 8, and 291 people were killed while the area around Lanao Lake was severely damaged.

● In August 1968, an intensity 8 earthquake struck in Manila, killing 270 people. All but two of the fatalities were living in the Ruby Towers that collapsed.

● On Aug. 17, 1976, an earthquake of intensity 8 rocked Mindanao causing a tsunami which destroyed several coastal areas of Lanao del Sur, Zamboanga del Sur, Cotabato, Pagadian City and Basilan.

● Aug. 17, 1983, Northern Luzon experienced the most powerful earthquake in 52 years. Sixteen persons were killed, and damage was extensive in Laoag City, Pasuquin, Sarrai and Batac, all in Ilocos Norte.

Records over the last 30 years show

that the Eastern Mindanao-Leyte-Samar area is most prone to earthquakes. An average of 16 "perceptible earthquakes" a year were found to have their epicenters in the area. Northern Luzon follows with a yearly average of 13 perceptible quakes.

In contrast, Cebu, Luzon and Palawan appeared to be most stable with only one perceived tremor in a year, the records also show.

Efren Uy and Benito Punzalan, Philvolcs research specialists, in a 1987 study identified six earthquake source zones in the country. These are the Philippine trench, Philippine fault zone, Manila trench, Cotabato-Davao trench, Negros-Sulu trench and East Luzon trench.

Based on past data, Uy and Punzalan also identified some areas likely to be hit by earthquakes of varying magnitudes. Their classifications:

● Classification A, intensity 6; Eastern Mindanao comprising the provinces of Surigao, Davao Oriental, and portions of Agusan and Davao del Norte; Eastern Samar (Borongan, Sulat and Oras towns); north-western tip of Mindoro; and Agno, Pangasinan.

● Classification B, intensity 5: Central Mindanao composed of the provinces of Agusan and Davao del Norte; Leyte, Western Samar (Catbalogan, Calbayog City, Allen and Catarman); Central Mindoro, Bataan, Zambales and Ilocos Norte (Laoag City, Pasuquin); and Romblon, north-eastern Bohol, northern tip of Cebu and Busuanga, Palawan.

● Classification C, intensity 4: Central Mindoro, Central Cotabato and its west-

ern portion, lower portion of Bukidnon, southwestern portion of Bohol, northern Cebu, northern and western portions of Negros and southern and northern portions of Panay; southwestern tip of Mindoro. Central portion of Luzon from Cagayan province to portions of the provinces of Batangas, Cavite, Laguna and northern tip of Palawan.

Despite the frequency of earthquakes and the high probability that a strong tremor will strike the Philippines in the future, officials have noted a lack of preparation for such an event.

Raymundo Punongbayan, Philvolcs director, said in a study that there is no concerted effort to put in place disaster preparedness plans and policies.

Punongbayan said disaster preparedness against natural hazards requires monitoring, prediction and response systems.

Philvolcs has to make do at present with only monitoring and response systems.

The seismological network of Philvolcs has only 12 seismic stations for monitoring and describing earthquakes within and outside the Philippine archipelago.

Punongbayan said that with only 12 stations Philvolcs cannot properly monitor all the highly mobile zones in the country. A total of forty stations are needed to cover all those zones, he said.

Punongbayan also said Philvolcs equipment are obsolete and defective, with some needing spare parts that are no longer being made by manufacturers.

Sabit, however, said their most immediate problem is the lack of competent personnel.

Don Pepe meets chief in secrecy

Oyson wanted negotiation

THE chief of police of a Metro Manila town met and warned alleged drug lord Jose "Don Pepe" Oyson to stop trafficking dope in his area but did not attempt to arrest him.

The meeting between Oyson and his "oldtime friend," a senior police officer assigned in one of the four towns under the Southern Police District (SPD), took place in a Paranaque subdivision few days after the drug expose of Sen. Ernesto Herrera, a source privy to the meeting said.

The source said the meeting was held in a house owned by a certain Lita, and it was during that meeting that Oyson indicated he wanted to negotiate with law enforcers for the dismantling of his drug network.

In other developments: ● Some 3,600 kilos of marijuana earlier seized by PC and police teams in Antipolo were burned in Pasig during the launching of an anti-drug campaign programme.

● Sen. Ernesto Herrera urged the Supreme Court to designate special courts that would handle and try cases involving illegal drugs.

Last Thursday, Col. Virgilio David, PC Narcotics Command (NARCOM) chief, revealed the

alleged feelers sent by Oyson and ruled out any compromise with the drug lord.

David said Oyson was running scared and did not know what to do.

However, David made a turn-around yesterday and denied he was the source of the story. (The inquirer stands by its story.)

"How could I reveal something which is not even in my mind?" David said. "I'm not afraid of Oyson, but even among us thieves, we also have honor."

David said Oyson's plans to surrender were part of a "hypothetical" discussion on his activities.



Don Pepe



Soldiers look at a skull and other remains of victims dug up from a rebel "killing field" in Porac, Pampanga.

Porac found to be a graveyard

ANGELES CITY: Military authorities said another killing field of the New People's Army has been uncovered in sitio Malabini, Porac, Pampanga, some three kilometres southwest of Clark Air Base.

Remains of at least six persons, including those of a missing student leader, were dug up in the burial site located on a sugarcane and vegetable plantation.

Capt. Gregorio Catapang of the 69th Infantry Battalion identified the student

leader as Mike de Leon of the League of Filipino Students. De Leon was abducted from his house in Sta. Cruz, Porac, in August last year by four men aboard a jeep.

The skeletal remains believed to be those of De Leon's were found some 900 metres from his house. Those of the other victims were found nearby.

Authorities said the new killing field was disclosed by a former rebel who had surren-

dered. He was not named by the military.

Two other teams from the 69th IB have continued digging in the area for more remains of alleged victims of NPA atrocities.

In Porac, the local government has embarked a policy of attraction and to invite rebels to surrender and lead normal lives. The project, according to military authorities, hopes to promote a peaceful solution to the insurgency problem that is designed to prevent further bloodshed.

Mitra starts campaign in South



Mitra

SPEAKER Ramon V. Mitra started to campaign for the approval of the organic act by urging his provincemates in Palawan to vote "yes" in the plebiscite scheduled on Nov. 19.

Mitra and the pro-administration Laban ng Demokratikong Pilipino (LDP), which he used to head, are campaigning for the inclusion of at least seven provinces in the proposed autonomous region. Aside from Palawan, voters from 12 other provinces in Mindanao will decide in the coming plebiscite if they want their areas placed under the autonomous body.

In speeches around Northern Palawan, Mitra said provinces which are annexed to the autonomous region will have a higher share in taxes and revenues than other provinces.

He explained that as of now, local government units in other parts of the country receive merely 20 per cent in the government earnings collected within their boundaries.

RP eyes operational control over bases

THE Philippines will push for "operational control" over the US military facilities here under a new bases agreement if formal talks were held over the future of the bases, a senior official said.

The official, who asked not to be identified, is a member of the five-man panel that will hold exploratory talks on the bases issue next month with US officials.

"We will propose the elimination of the clause on the unhampered military operations because this clause does not appear in any of the agreements the US has with other countries," the official said.

In Washington, Rep. Stephen Solarz said President Aquino should recognize that there were limits to what the United States will pay for the continued use of its military facilities in her country.

Solarz said in a television interview that the two governments may not be able to agree on a price for continued American use of its six bases in the Philippines because Aquino apparently intends "to try to drive a tough bargain" in negotiations starting next month for the use of the bases after 1991.

"We may not be able to come to terms on a new agreement," said Solarz, chairman of the House subcommittee on Asian and Pacific affairs.

"I think we are approaching the limits of what we can prudently afford to pay, given the fact that there are alternatives," he continued. "Even though those alternatives could cost us more money than we're paying now, at a certain point it would not

become cost-effective to continue using our facilities in the Philippines."

"So it is a question of whether we can reach a figure in our negotiations that makes sense to us and that is also acceptable to them," said Solarz in the interview taped Wednesday for "American Interests," a foreign affairs programme scheduled for airing this weekend over US public television stations.

He quoted defense department estimates that it would cost P4 billion in capital expenses to develop alternatives to the Philippine bases plus \$600 million a year over the current cost of Philippine labour.

Solarz also said that, despite some opposition "all of the polls seem to suggest that a substantial majority of the (Filipino) people themselves favour retention of our bases."

He said that if an Aquino-suggested referendum were held on the future of the bases, and if Aquino supported a new base agreement, "the great majority would vote in favour of keeping our bases."

Philippine Ambassador to Washington Emmanuel Pelaez also appeared on the programme, titled "America and Corason Aquino: A Cooling Lover Affair?"

He said the base issue was turning into a psychological problem with scholars and youths "feeling that if we want to be whole, there should be no military troops in our country."

Pelaez added: "If there is going to be a new base agreement, it will be based on an entirely new situation.

In Manila US Ambassador Nicholas Platt described as "tough" the composition of the panel which Aquino created the other day to conduct exploratory talks on the bases issue with US officials.

Foreign Secretary Raul Manglapus heads the panel while Health Secretary Alfredo Bengzon is vice-chairman. The members are Defense Undersecretary Feliciano Gacis, Consul General Leonides Caday and Assistant Solicitor General Ramon Desuaso.

A member of the panel who spoke on condition of anonymity said another issue likely to be taken up will be the jurisdiction of Philippine courts over American servicemen accused of crimes while on duty in the US bases here.

Ecological campaign launched

A NEW ecological campaign aims to enlist the corporate world in seedling raising. Dubbed "A Seed A Day for The Country," the programme calls for private corporations to encourage their employees to grow seedlings from fruits consumed in their homes which the company then buys from them as an income-augmenting project.

The seedlings are then donated to the World Ecologists who plant them in public lands.

Use of Carp funds for palay studied

PRESIDENT Aquino directed Justice Secretary Sedfrey Ordonez to determine if part of some P7.8 billion earmarked for the Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Programme (CARP) can be legally used to finance a higher government support price for palay.

However, an official of the Department of Agrarian Reform disclosed that Carp funds have been previously diverted to the Department of Agriculture to subsidize the cost of fertilizer.

Eleanor Tan, chief of the Agrarian Reform Fund (ARF), said that P531 million of the money for Carp has been allocated for the agriculture department's Rice Productivity Enhancement Programme (RPEP).

Tan said a total of P290 million was released last June and P241 million more are due for release either by the end of this year or early next year.

Executive Secretary Catalino Macaraig told Malacanang newsmen he knew offhand that the government can legally use part of the Carp funds for the rice subsidy programme.

Aquino decided to test the legal issue to Ordonez during a special Cabinet meeting where possible sources of funds for the government's palay procurement programme were considered.

Press Secretary Adolfo Azuma said the President did not give a deadline for Ordonez to come up with a legal opinion, but the justice secretary and other Cabinet members knew the urgency of the problem.

"There is no deadline, but the urgency of the matter is understood by Cabinet members," Azuma said.

He said Aquino wanted the government to subsidize the higher price of palay since he preferred to maintain the retail prices of rice instead of passing on the added costs to consumers.

Several farmers' organizations have demanded a 50-centavo increase per kilo in the government's buying price for palay, now pegged at P4.50. And they have threatened not to sell their harvest if government rejected their demand.

Officials have estimated that funds for the palay-buying programme have to be increased by P470 million to enable the National Food Authority to buy at P5 a kilo during the next harvest season.

Macaraig said after the Cabinet meeting that a provision in the for support services to farmers, among other things.

His opinion contradicted that of Agrarian Reform Secretary Miriam Santiago, who said Tuesday that while the Carp has the funds, there are legal impediments to their use for other purposes.

Officials close to Santiago said that while donor countries, which contributed to the ARF, imposed no conditions on the use of funds, the CARL imposes restrictions on disbursements of ARF money.

The diversion of Carp funds to the fertilizer subsidy programme was Philip Juico, according to Tan.

In the first phase of the RPEP, farmers get one sack of fertilizer free for every sack they buy.

Under RPEP II, launched early this year, farmers get two sacks of fertilizer in exchange for one sack of palay, depending on the size of the land they till.

Look who's wearing a ponytail!

WHO says girls are the only ones who can wear ponytails? Nowadays, men are diverging from the prescribed cropped hair for their sex. They've become more daring, accepting the challenge of maintaining and caring for long locks. Some just let it grow and flow freely; others try keeping a thin "tail" snaking past their napes onto their backs; but those who are really adventurous do as the ladies do — tie it back neatly in a ponytail.

Do we see a trend coming? Is this going to be the male look for the '90s? With the women now cutting their hair very, very short, and looking like men, why can't the men wear long hair and try to look like women?

Many, however, still find the change too jarring, too illogical for the human mind to accept. It has been a source of ceaseless wonder how society continues to frown on men with long hair and yet look up to famous historical figures with the same hairdo as role models. Jesus Christ, for one, sported a long mane which curled at the end. Moses, Abraham, Joseph, to name a few — all let their hair hang loose. Classical composers like Beethoven

and Mozart had long and curly locks. "If they could do it, why can't we?" must be the battlecry of the modern male. Some local personalities have thus defied — nay, ignored — tradition by letting their hair grow longer than usual — and they couldn't be happier.

Randy Santiago, the singer/host perennially in shades, is one of those who have taken the "long hair-plunge." Observing how popular models in ponytail have become in the US, Randy thought it would also catch on here. "I also thought of sporting long hair to fit my image as a rock singer. It's part of the packaging. Pag maikli kasi ang buhok ko, sobrang good boy ang hitsura ko," he explains.

Randy even wore ribbons when he promoted his Babero single a few months ago to match the suits he wore then. "Pero ngayon, parang hindi na bagay. I just tie my hair in a ponytail when I'm in my basic maning panis-and-T-shirt get-up. Maganda naman at maayos tingnan, di ba?"

Fashion designer Inno Sotto clarifies at the outset that he's had long hair "for ages" and did not let it grow simply because it's in vogue now. "I've kept my hair longish even when short was round. I've even grown it shoulder-length. The only difference is, now, I have more white hair," he quips. Luckily for him, he was exempted from CAT (because of a heart ailment) and thus, did not have to sport a crew-cut style.

Inno also counts himself fortunate in having quite liberal parents. "They gave us a lot of freedom. Besides, my family had other things to bother about other than hairstyle."

Inno points out, "It had nothing to do with trends. It's a way of art directing myself — of determining what would fit me. And I think long hair fits my person-

ality."

Henry Tejero, a senior copywriter at Nancy Harel and Co., a public relations agency feels the same way about his own hair. "Parang it's part of my face. For years, I'd been looking for a hairstyle that would fit me — I have an oblong face and high cheekbones — and I guess I found it. It was inspired by classical Japanese hairstyles."

Having had only one trim since 1985, Henry indeed seems to have found the perfect hairdo — clean-cut at the sides, with a glorious centre mane that he sweeps back and braids every single day. In case he looks familiar, Henry is that guy you see in the Chinese soup commercial on TV.

With his unconventional hairdo, the next question to ask Henry is how he parries people's comments and queries about it. "I'm beyond people's reactions because I grew up being different," he replies. "I'm used to being stared at since I'm adventurous in trying out new things. Before, every six months I changed hairstyles — may Virgin Mary effect, may diamond-cut, may heart-shaped."

"In my case," Inno explains, "people tend to understand it in context with my profession. Being a fashion designer sort of gives me more 'license' to look different."

Of course, Henry remarks, maintaining long hair has its share of consequences. So how do Randy, Inno and Henry care for their hair and how long do they take in fixing it?

Inno: "The usual shampoo and conditioner. I don't spend a particularly long time on it but there's a standing joke among my friends that whenever I'm not available, it's because I'm fixing my hair."

Henry: "After shampooing, I towel-dry it. That and braiding it usually take 30 minutes. I can't do it, I have the maid braid it.

Then I use a dark blue or black velvet ribbon to secure the end."

Randy: "I wash it everyday. Meron pang pa-hot oil-hot oil occasionally. As long as you have the right hair-dresser to care for it, hindi naman marumi tingnan ang mahabang buhok, eh."

Lastly, do they tend to change hairstyles in the near future or are they really bent on keeping the one they have now?

"I can't tell," Inno admits. "But who knows?"

Henry, torn by indecision, confesses, "Ngayon, parang nagasawa na rin ako. But long hair becomes me..."

As for Randy, he says firmly, "Definitely, I'm changing hairstyles — I want to grow my hair longer. Gusto ko 'yung pantay-pantay — parang sa babae. But it will take a few more years, siguro mga two years pa. I'm enjoying this hairstyle. But five years from now, I don't think I'd still have long hair."



Santiago. Tying his hair into a ponytail fits in with his image and matches his rugged get-up.



Tejero. His braided locks are tied neatly at the end with a dark black suede ribbon.



Sotto being a fashion designer gives him more 'license' to look different.

Stags score two in a row

WELL, this one was a real Stags party. Only difference is, everyone's invited, even the Altas. San Sebastian capped a tumultuous season and turned back Perpetual High college of Rizal, 102-93 in a rubbermatch to clinch the championship of the 65th National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) senior division basketball tournament at the Rizal Coliseum last week.

It was a fitting finale to an exciting season that saw a lot of twists and turns. The Stags actually started on the wrong foot minus coach Francis Rodriguez and ace point guard Eugene Quilban who missed the first game on account of a stint in Indonesia with the Sta. Lucia Realty team.

Because of this, SSC management suspended Quilban for one game and Rodriguez, for the duration of the first round. Rodriguez's suspension was actually veiled by the fact that he was also assistant coach of the National team to the Beijing ABC.

As a result, the Stags hobbled to third place at the end of the first round. The Altas took the first round pennant, while Letran finished second.

Had the Altas also won the second round plumb, they would have clinched the championship without going through the ordeal of a playoff. However, at the end of the second round, Perpetual, San Sebastian, Letran and Mapua Tech found themselves in a four-way logjam for first place, each of them, sporting identical 3-2 slates. The tie was resolved via a special single round among all teams concerned. Stags topped this special round to forge a best-of-three playoff for the crown.

San Sebastian took the first game 120-107 but lost



Melchors Teves, a veteran of several PABL wars, was a vital cog in the Stags' titular drive.

Game 2, 95-88. Thus the rubbermatch.

When it was all over, coach Rodriguez, who rejoined his team at the start of the second round, could only heave a sigh of relief.

Two concerts in one night

IT was, as usual, a buoyant Martin Nievera who faced the press at Kanyan EPDA last week. He was his animated self — punctuating his mile-a-minute sentences with exclamation points, gesturing briskly with his hands and making exaggerated facial expressions. But that day, there seemed to be added gleam in his eyes — and with good reason.

Just the night before, he had been cited by the Philippine Movie Press Club as Best Celebrity Talk Show Host for his weekly TV show, Martin after dark (MAD). The show also won as Best Celebrity Talk Show. Asked if he expected to win, considering there were only three nominees in that category (Edu Manzano for the defunct not so Late Night with Edu and Johnny Linton for Oh No! It's Johnny), Martin replied in the negative.

"Edu and Johnny are both good hosts and I think my winning was just a matter of opinion. Given another set of judges, either one of them could have won over me. But of course, I'm extremely thankful to Star Awards for these," he enthuses, pointing to the two trophies which he had brought along with him to the press conference.

Martin is busy promoting his upcoming series of shows at the Music Museum which starts tonight. Dubbed as Madness Two, the series is the follow-up to his successful string of concerts at the same venue last July titled Martin Madness many had been hankering for additional editions of the show, but because the music Museum was fully booked for the succeeding months, it's only now that Martin can give in to the requests of his followers.

Formadness Two, Martin will do a first in local concert history and that is, to hold two solo concerts in one evening. On Nov 4, 10 and 17, he performed at 7pm and then again at 9pm. "It can be done — I think," Martin glibly assured with hardly a break in between, it is indeed interesting to see how the "Concert King" will fare. He also had shows on 5, 8, 9. His father, Bert Nievera, will be his special guest.

Madness Two is also the Philippine version of Martin's shows at the University of Guam

Field House on Nov 25 and at Harrah's Casino in Reno, Nevada on Dec 7. "I will definitely be back for Christmas and I'm seriously thinking of putting up a free concert for my fans, as I have done in previous years. Last year, there was none, because I had a singing engagement in the States. This year, maybe..." Martin smiles.

Another thing that's keeping the singer/hop happy these days is the impending birth of his second child. His wife, Pops Fernandez, is expected to give birth in February. "Pops has already undergone the 'microwave' (jokingly referring to the ultrasound test) and we're told that we will have another son. Sana, there is some way to change it, but I guess we have to keep on trying to have a daughter."

The couple's son, Robin is reportedly very excited about the news that he will soon have a baby brother. Martin says of Robin, a touch of pride creeping into his voice, "whenever he sees me singing, he mimics me. Ang galing mag-lip-synch! Puwede na nga sa That's Entertainment, eh."

Since Pops' date with the stork falls on February, the couple will not be able to hold their traditional Valentine concert. Not to worry, though Martin notes that he and his gather will present a back-to-back concert instead, billed as Nievera and son. But as soon as Pops is up and about and back to her former self, expect the husband-and-wife to be back on the concert stage as in old times.



Nievera

Vice protectors identified: The Deputy commander for police operations of PC Region 9 has identified 10 operators and protectors of illegal gambling in Zamboanga City.

Col Manuel Pepino said three of the operators are doctors. Two are city officials and the rest are businessmen. The protectors include PC soldiers and policemen, he said.

Pepino did not give names but said operations have begun to pin down the suspects. "I will send them to jail," he vowed.

Pepino said he has furnished regional commander Col Roger Deula with a list of the gambling operators and protectors. He said he will personally lead raids on gambling dens in the city and will immediately recommend for dismissal law enforcers who will be proven in cahoots with vice lords. "Including soldiers," he said.

From the provinces

SAMAR: Sergio T. Escoto, municipal mayor of Borogan, Eastern Samar appealed to Environment and Natural Resources Secretary Fulgencio S. Factoran, Jr. to allow the Pava Logging Co. to resume logging and sawmilling operations.

He said that the resumption of the normal operations of the company will benefit not only its employees but also the residents of the whole island of Samar.

In an urgent communication to the DENR secretary, Escoto said he is interceding in behalf of the laid-off employees who were adversely affected by the imposition of the logging moratorium on Samar.

The mayor listed community services which were rendered by the company and which have contributed to the delivery of basic services to the people of Borogan.

Escoto said the company has consistently donated to the municipality lumber for such projects as reconstruction of the municipal hall of Borogan, construction of barangay day-care centers, chapels, farmers' centers, school buildings, classrooms and coffins. (Priscilla Arias)

MANILA: A group of physicians urged Local Government Secretary Luis T. Santos to order an investigation on the health condition of a top provincial official who is reportedly undergoing treatment for Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS).

In a letter sent to Santos, a doctors' group in three hospitals and a former chief of provincial hospital said that this top provincial official (identity withheld) is being treated in Manila.

His wife and two other women are also undergoing treatment for the same disease, the letter said.

The letter also said that the official allegedly had intimate relations with his secretary and some college girls whom he reportedly called "scholars."

A DLG official asked reporters not to disclose the whereabouts of the persons involved for security reasons.

He said that the letter sent to DLG might just be a "poison letter" intended to ruin the reputation of the official.

The official was chanced upon by reporters at the DLG office. He expressed surprise over the letter and denied the allegation that he is suffering from AIDS. He said he is undergoing treatment for diabetes.

He likewise denied the allegation that he is involved with women, saying that his scholars are boys.

BACOR: Cavite — Four suspected drug pushers, believed to be members of a big-time syndicate, operating in this town, were arrested by a team of Bacoor policemen and PC soldiers during a "buy-bust" operation in barangay Talaba.

Maj. Eduardo Catibayan, Bacoor police chief, said the arrest was made following a week-long surveillance on the suspects who were the objects of complaints by parents and barangay officials in Talaba.

The suspect were identified as Prescilla Pakkingan, 32, married, Randy Hermida, 19, single, Flaviano Pakkingan, 26, single, and Richard Joson, 20, single, all residents of barangay Talaba.

The policemen and soldiers recovered from the house of the suspects 10 grammes of methamphetamine hydrochloride commonly known as "shabu," with a street value of P10,000, several paraphernalia for making "shabu," and P5,840 cash believed to be the earnings of the group from selling the stuff.

They were arrested at a "buy-bust" operation conducted by policemen and elements of the 233rd PC company led by Capt. Reynaldo Macalalad.

Earlier, one of their alleged customers, identified as Ed Rose Cruz, was apprehended by Patrolmen Adolfo Talay, Ricardo Bermejo, and Bienvenido Viscarra. (Del Villanueva)

DAGUPAN CITY: Newsman Conrad Banal III, vice president of the National Press Club of the Philippines, urged Rotarians and other civic leaders to assert their role as leaders of the community in the drive to rid the government of grafters.

Banal, business editor of the Philippine Star, said that corruption is not only a per-

nicious crime committed by many people in government but worse, it has permeated the social fabric like it was a way of life among Filipinos.

It should be the duty of the Rotary clubs and all other civic-minded organizations in the country to eradicate the fast and continued decline of moral values even if the drive appears insurmountable at present.

Banal was the guest speaker of the Rotary Club of Dagupan headed by lawyer Rod Coquia, president.

A week earlier, UP professor Jose Esmundo also denounced alleged corrupt practices of some provincial officials of Tarlac province in a speech before the Rotarians here.

Esmundo, a past president of the Rotary Club of Tarlac, urged the prosecution of Gov. Mar Un Ocampo, past Rotary district governor.

Governor Ocampo later answered Esmundo's charges before the Rotary Club of Dagupan and that of Downtown Dagupan, branding the charges as "strange and politically motivated."

Meanwhile, it was announced that Rep. Hernani Perez of Batangas will be guest speaker at the Rotary inter-city meeting on Friday. The meeting will be hosted by the Rotary Club of Pangasinan Central. (JV)

MANILA: The Constabulary Highway Patrol Group (CHPG) reported that the intensified campaign against carjacking during the past nine months resulted in the recovery of 218 carjacked vehicles of various types and models.

Brig. Gen. Manuel F. Bruan, CHPG chief, said that during the same period, the CHPG also seized 3,251 various types of locally assembled vehicles made of "chop-chop" car parts and collected P26,404,474 customs taxes and duties from the owners.

The CHPG had been deputized by the Bureau of Customs (BOC) to assist it in the campaign against untaxed "chop-chop" vehicles.

Bruan said that the CHPG National Capital Region (NCR) district command under Maj. Danilo Mangila recovered 51 carjacked and stolen vehicles. CHPG District 3 command recovered 44 cars.

He said that CHPG teams killed 20 suspected carjackers in shootouts and seized 29 firearms and handguns of various calibres from suspected carjackers. Eighty carjacking suspects were captured or arrested during the same period.

Bruan said that of 80 persons arrested, 65 were charged in court and are now facing carjacking charges. He said that the incidence of carjacking in Metro Manila has significantly gone down from eight cars a day to one car.

He said in most cases, the courts failed to convict suspected carjackers due to the attitude of car owners who, after their carjacked cars are returned to them, do not make themselves available at the court hearings.

SAN JOSE: Antique — Antiquenos, angered by the imprisonment of Antique Provincial Fiscal John Torralba, are planning to stage a rally this week to denounce an order of Judge Bonifacio Sanz Maceda.

Maceda ordered the imprisonment of Torralba after the prosecutor refused to participate in the hearing of a petition for bail of Avelino Javellana, one of the provincial suspects in the gun-slaying of former Antique Gov. Evelio Javier.

The Antiquenos labelled Maceda's order as "high arbitrary and biased" when the judge committed Javellana in the custody of then provincial Constabulary commander Col. Teodoro Abayata while placing Torralba behind bars.

Torralba had refused to participate in the proceedings for Javellana's bail after State Prosecutor Aurelio Trampe, who is personally handling the Javier murder case, filed a motion to postpone the hearing.

Trampe had earlier filed a motion for reconsideration of the order of Maceda denying the motion for the discharge of Oscar Tiaison, one of the accused in the murder case who had wanted to turn state witness.

The other motions of Trampe include a plea to inhibit Maceda from hearing the trial of the case because of "manifest bias for the accused

(Javellana)." A petition for certiorari with the Supreme Court was also filed by Trampe and Solicitor General Frank Chavez, questioning the order of Maceda on Javellana's custody and seeking the discharge of Tiaison so he can turn state witness.

"All these motions filed by Trampe and the solicitor general are prejudicial questions before the hearing on the petition for bail of lawyer Javellana could proceed," said Antique Rep. Executives B. Javier, brother of the late governor. (Ray Roquero)

KALOOKAN CITY: The various committee chairmanships of the city council, most of which are chaired by members of the opposition bloc in the council, will be reorganized.

Councilor Gil Calalang, majority floor leader, had earlier moved for the reorganization of the council's committee chairmanships.

Four councilors, who are members of the opposition bloc, are the chairmen of important committees of the city board. The four are Councilors Benedicto Gonzales, Rey Malonso, Mamerto Manahan, and Denicio Dolatre, all of the second district.

It is expected that the four opposition councilors will be ousted from the chairmanships of the committees they now chair.

This was considered a certainty because the other members of the council, including the four appointed sectoral representatives, belong to the Liping Kalookan, a political party founded by Mayor Macario Asistio, during the last local elections.

Expected to be appointed chairmen of the important committees are Councilors Gil Calalang, Nene Asistio, Henson, Alex Aruelo, Augusto Pena and the four sectoral representatives. (Ding Ellamil)

MAKATI: A pretty teacher and one of her pupils were held hostage in a spurned sutor in a classroom in a parish village in Makati, Metro Manila.

After a 30-minute ordeal, the teacher, Sonia Rodolfo, 30, of Instruction St. Sampaloc, Manila, and her student, Naiza Alvarez, 3, were released unharmed by the suspect, identified as Florio Tresvalles, jobless, of Bato, Caudanuenes, Bicol.

Pfc Jun Reblado of the Makati police investigation division posed as a lawyer and convinced Tresvalles to surrender by promising him legal help.

Reblado, like all the other Makati detectives, was dressed in long-sleeve polo shirt and necktie, in compliance with a directive being implemented in the police station.

Initial police investigation showed that Tresvalles came all the way from Bicol to look for Rodolfo who is now staying in Metro Manila on orders of her parents. She has been working as a school teacher at the Golden Values Kindergarten School on Reposo St. Makati.

Police said that Tresvalles first grabbed three-year-old Alvarez when he did not immediately see Rodolfo in the classroom.

Tresvalles later surrendered to Reblado.

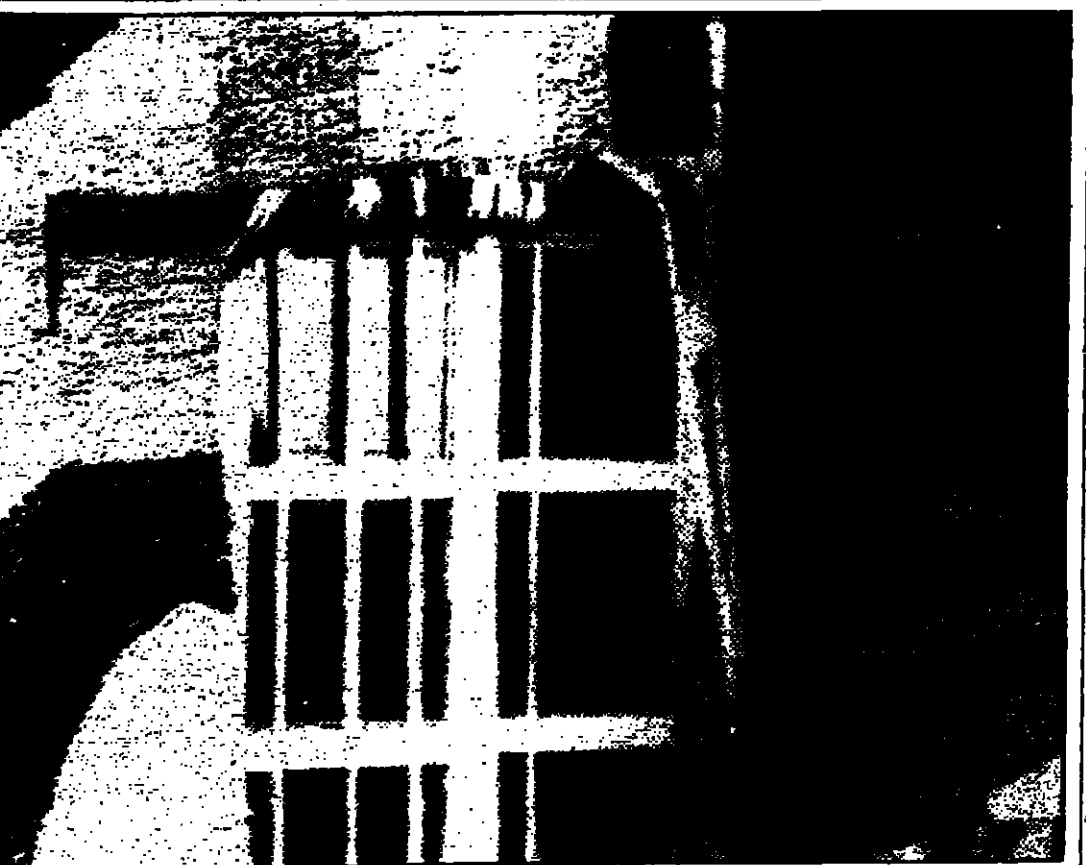
MANILA: Sen Neptali A. Gonzales cited the role of lawyers, particularly in the aspects of administration of justice and nation-building, as vital to the life of a nation.

Speaking during the student council of the Philippine Law School, Gonzales said: "Lawyers, among all professionals, have the greatest opportunity to shape the destiny of our nation and people" because "the law is the primary source of acceptable rules of human conduct."

"Aside from counseling, advocacy in court, and legal research, lawyers are expected to assume the obligation to intelligently and unselfishly mold public opinion in spheres and areas where your training and experience give you a peculiar competence," Gonzales added.

However, he frowned on some lawyers who give the law profession a bad name because of unethical activities and practices.

The former dean of the college of law of the Far Eastern University, Gonzales, who placed 9th in the bar, is an alumnus of the Philippine Law School.



One-woman show of woven tapestries

SHAI Sangco-Tamayo, visual artist, opens her first one-woman show at the Galerie Renaissance on Session Road, Baguio City. Entitled Fiberations, the exhibit will showcase wall and floor tapestries handwoven in all-natural fibers such as jute, rattan, seagrass, cotton, etc., which are dyed by airbrush or by hand. Recurring themes are nature, the elements,

and the family. Shai has a background in Fine Arts and Interior Design, and for the past four years has been experimenting and innovating in this medium. Says Shai, "I find weaving so exciting — there are just so many possibilities as far as form, technique, materials, etc., are concerned. I am never bored."

Estrada up against US bases

A hero's crusade

TONYO is a slow-moving, slow-talking "jeepney" (taxi) driver from the city of Olongapo, home of the huge United States naval base at Subic Bay. When authorities intrude on his old neighbourhood's fishing grounds, he broods over the injustice. But when a fisherman friend is shot and killed, he snaps into action.

He takes on the corrupt mayor and he takes on the prostitution industry. He takes on beer-guzzling servicemen and the bar-owners' hired thugs. And, two hours later, backed by a crowd of banner-waving supporters, he marches defiantly down Olongapo's brook-studded main street to take on the US Navy.

Needless to say, it's an action-packed two hours. There's enough bare-fisted bone wrangling to make an orthopaedic surgeon cringe, and enough automatic gunfire to deplete a weapons depot. Yes, it's a movie, full of every convention known to Philippine cinema. But this time there's a twist.

The twist is not so much that "Sa Kuko Ng Agila" ("In the Claw of the Eagle"), released in July, has a political message—that has been done before. It has more to do with its unusually political cast. Starring as the urbane and lovely journalist who joins forces with the simple jeepney driver is Anna Dominique "Nikki" Coseteng, a first-time actress and full-time member of the Philippine House of Representatives. And co-starring as the bearlike Tomyo is an increasingly visible first-term Senator, Joseph "Erap" Estrada.

Estrada, 52, is no stranger to the silver screen, where he garnered five national best-actor awards and established himself as a symbol of the beleaguered, honest and sometimes vengeful Filipino male. In a country where Tagalog-language films are a highly popular form of entertainment, he is still better known as an action star than as a politician.

But that is beginning to change as the Philippine and United States governments gear up for negotiations over the future of Clark Air Base and Subic Bay naval station in this former US territory. Any new agreement must be approved by the Philippine Senate, and Estrada's staunch nationalism has made him stand out as debate over the future of the bases intensifies.

In his crusade against what he calls American "meddling," Estrada has assumed a new political colouration. In 1987 he ran for a seat in the Senate with a "tough-guy" reputation and the support of a right-wing coalition. Now he is a leader of the left-of-centre Liberal Party and is a fixture at left-wing rallies.

Estrada's reputation as a film star clearly wins him votes. In a recent poll of Manila-area voters he was the second most popular choice for president for 1992, just barely behind Liberal Party leader and Senate President Jovito Salonga.

Estrada is the eighth son of well-to-do parents from Manila. He dropped out of college and soon made a name—and a fortune—for himself in a film industry hungry for bankable stars. He travelled around the world twice, bought cars and houses and started a family, but, by the age of 32, he says he felt that he should give his fans

something in return.

"I said to myself, 'I owe everything to the masses, to the poor people who have patronised my movies,'" Estrada explains. "I thought I should reciprocate, and the only way I could do that was by entering public life." He decided to run for mayor of his hometown of San Juan, one of the towns that make up the Manila metropolitan area. "In my first term, I was elected because of my popularity as an actor," he admits. "But when I ran for re-election, I was elected for my performance."

As a politician, Estrada adopted the simple methods of his movie characters and used them in San Juan, even to the extent of hiring thugs to beat up people marked by him as the town's disruptive elements. "That's the only language they understand," he says, adding that after a year, he had "cleaned up" the town and began to build health clinics and schools. He donated his mayor's salary—as he still does with his Senate stipend—to an educational foundation and he cut back on his film-making.

Estrada was mayor of San Juan for nearly 17 years, leading some observers to assume that he was receiving favours from then-President Ferdinand Marcos and his wife, Imelda (Mrs Marcos had been appointed governor of Manila by her husband and thus had close contact with the city's mayors.) Estrada denies this, saying that he applied to the Marcoses when he needed help for his constituents but that he gave no favours in return.

Still, Estrada was forced to resign in 1988 after Corason Aquino was elected president and appointed her own officials. Estrada then decided to run for national office as a member of the opposition.

It took about a year for the actor to find his voice as a nationalist and an anti-US bases activist. He says that he was led to speak out because of his conviction that foreign intervention is "the root cause of our poverty." He asserts that it is the time for Filipinos to establish their own identity and political will, rejecting outright deep concerns by other South-East Asian nations regarding security in the Pacific if the Americans pulled out.

Estrada also makes short change of a recent poll taken by the US Naval Institute showing that 77 per cent of Filipinos consider that the bases are a boost to the economy, plowing \$1 million a day into local businesses. At present, 68,000 Filipinos work at the US facilities, which are the largest employer after the government, and there are four applicants for each job opening. Through the recently increased leasing agreement for the two bases and related economic aid provided by the US, the Philippines currently is the third largest recipient of US aid after Israel and Egypt.

While American forces in the Philippines have already been reduced, Singapore has offered to play host to some military facilities.

Showing little interest for regional politics, Estrada says he sets his own priorities. One of them is curbing population growth. Although he fathered seven children, he expresses deep concern about his country's high birth-rate.



Senator-actor Estrada and his partner Coseteng.

Children who brave the sea

At the ocean's mercy

THE women and children living on this small fishing island in the Bay of Bengal have two things in common—the sea and the tragedy it brings them.

Nearly everyone here has lost a father, husband or son, lured far out into the unpredictable bay in defiance of fierce waves spawned by an approaching storm.

"We are children of the sea, growing on the waves and dying in the water," said 18-year-old Abdus Salam, who became a fisherman seven years ago after his father drowned in a storm. Often there is no body, so the families simply wait for loved ones who will never return.

Sixty-year-old Amana Khatun has been waiting for her son for nearly two years. "No one says he has died and that keeps the hope kindled," she said.

Children whose fathers are missing walk to the coast and peer out to sea as fishing boats return at dusk.

"This is an endless vigil and seldom are they rewarded with relatives presumed dead showing up alive," elderly fisherman Abdul Ahad said.

Ahad bears a bitter grudge against the sea that has claimed three of his seven sons. "I hate it. I curse it," he said.

But for thousands of his neighbours and people in nearby Ghatibhanga village the sea remains the only source of income. The islanders have virtually no agricultural land, and there are few other jobs.

Officials at Maheshkhali, 11 km (seven miles) from Cox's Bazar, said at least 300 people from the island had died on fishing trips in the 12 months ending in September. Nearly 150 others were missing, feared drowned, after a series of sea storms struck in early October.

Officials blamed the deaths mainly on the poor condition of fishing trawlers which lack modern equipment or even radios to monitor storm warnings.

Most fishing boats are made of

wood, up to 15 metres (50 feet) long and fitted with small diesel engines.

Each trip results in a haul of fish worth up to 200,000 taka (\$6,400). Half the money goes to the owner of the boat, who also supplies fuel and food for the crew.

Each boat has six to 10 sailors who share the remaining half of the catch or the sales proceeds.

"Being a fisherman promises you easy and big money compared with any other profession. For us in this poor country, fishing is like gold mining," said Ekram Miah, a fishing community leader.

He said the catch is sometimes so big that fishermen dump part of it back into the sea. Besides, existing warehouses are inadequate to store or process whatever fish are brought to shore, he said.

Others do not agree. "The size of the catch is gradually diminishing. We don't know for sure why. But shoals now seem to be moving deeper into the sea," said fisherman Hazrat Ali.

Many young men from the island, with population of about 25,000, want to switch from fishing but the poor level of education and scarcity of employment keep them here, another said.

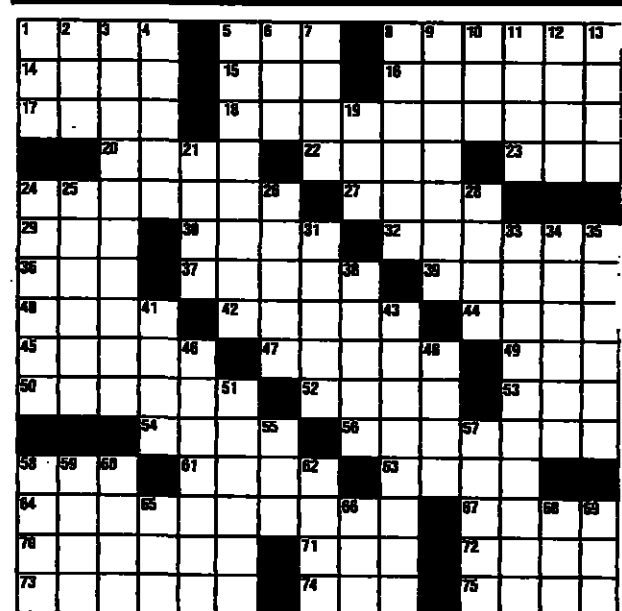
Maheshkhali residents said they face another ordeal when storms or waves force trawlers from Bangladesh's territorial water.

More than 2,000 Bangladeshi fishermen are now in jails in Burma, Thailand and other countries, charged with trespassing and illegal fishing, they said.

Officials said Bangladesh would soon re-excavate the two-km (one mile) Maheshkhali Channel that leads to the Bay of Bengal from Cox's Bazar so that fishing boats can rush to shelter at short notice before a storm.

"Dangers in the sea will not prevent people from sailing out. But better knowledge of how to face an emergency will definitely keep the number of deaths low," one official said.

TODAY'S CROSSWORD



- ACROSS**
- 1 Yesterday's roast today
 - 5 So-so grade
 - 8 Monticello, for one
 - 14 Canal of song
 - 15 Dead
 - 16 Early harpsichord
 - 17 Nothing, in Cadiz
 - 18 Quality checker at the Mint?
 - 20 Lab heater
 - 22 Cornucopia
 - 23 Peer Gynt's mother
 - 24 TV star Bob
 - 27 Social reformer Jacob
 - 29 "The Greatest"
 - 30 Seas, in Paris
 - 32 Doctrines
 - 36 Barrie's Peter
 - 37 Short jackets
 - 39 Embankment
 - 40 Italian beach resort
 - 42 Young oysters
 - 44 Noted western lawman
 - 45 Fox
 - 47 Parts of QEDs
 - 49 Favorite
 - 50 Seraglio
 - 52 Green land
 - 53 Explorer Johnson
 - 54 Network
 - 56 Roman
 - 58 ABA member
 - 61 Spring
 - 62 monster
 - 64 Wandering King of the Huns
 - 70 Inactive
 - 71 Sal of song
 - 72 River duck
 - 73 Chargers
- DOWN**
- 2 Fr. holy woman
 - 75 Being: Lat.
 - 1 Coop dweller
 - 2 Parsigian
 - 3 Small rattlesnake
 - 4 Moor
 - 5 Nightclubs
 - 6 Old French coin
 - 7 Engrave
 - 8 — de corps
 - 9 Long-eared dog
 - 10 — the season...
 - 11 Handle
 - 12 River of N England
 - 13 To be, in Caen
 - 19 Hebrew measure
 - 21 Appoint
 - 24 Port of S Italy
 - 25 Hollywood's May
 - 26 Figure of
 - 28 Snick's companion
 - 31 Trap
 - 33 Diminishes
 - 34 Nobelist Mother
 - 35 Of a membrane
 - 38 Blot
 - 41 Actor Sharif
 - 43 Contest
 - 46 Capitulated
 - 48 Large hauler, for short
 - 51 Makes tea
 - 55 Musician's must
 - 57 Fill with pride
 - 58 Amo, —, amat
 - 59 Try out
 - 60 Story
 - 62 Sty dwellers
 - 65 Wedding write-up word
 - 66 A Turner
 - 68 — Vegas
 - 69 Martinique, for one

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

PAIGAN LEITO JABS
ELIDE AMITO OGGIE
WALDENPOND ANNE
SEITS ASTIA SNEER
ALLIOWS SEMT
PEACE DATE VISE
INTERDEPENDENCE
ASEA OPEN ARGOL
NEWT ASSETS
SOLON NIGH
CARIN TARO SHOW
OMEN LAKEGENEVA
MOSE OXEN MORAL
BAIR TIDE SWELL

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF
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Both vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH

♠ K 10 5 2

♥ Q 7 5

♦ 7 5 3

♣ 8 6 2

WEST

♠ A 9

♥ J 4 3

♦ J 9

♣ K Q J

EAST

♠ Q J 8 7 4

♥ 9 6

♦ Q 10 4

♣ A 9 5

SOUTH

♠ 6 3

♥ A K 10 8 2

♦ A K 8 6 2

♣ 3

The bidding:

South West North East

1 ♥ 2 ♠ Pass 3 ♣

3 ♦ Pass 4 ♥ Pass

Pass Pass

Opening lead: King of ♣

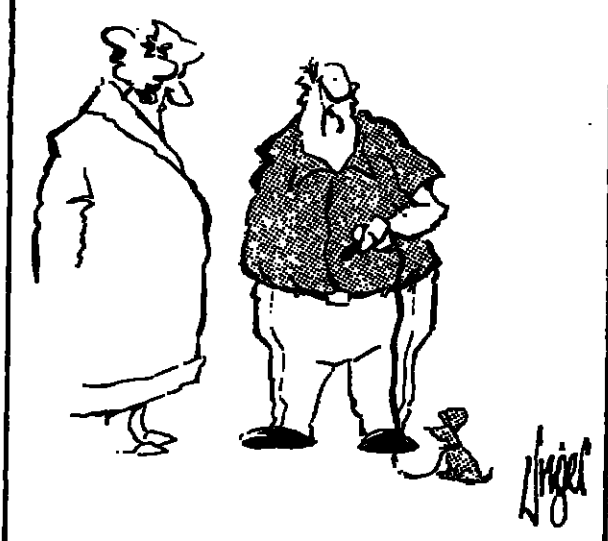
Should you draw trumps first or go about setting up your side-suit tricks? If you have a lot of enemy cards to force out, it is usually correct to delay drawing trumps.

West's jump to four hearts, even in the face of partner's strong bidding, was the height of optimism. After all, South did not open with a demand bid and North held only one sure working card—and no ruffing value.

Declarer ruffed the second round of clubs and cashed the ace-king of diamonds before surrendering a trick in that suit as West discarded the nine of spades. South ruffed the club return and led a spade, taken by West's ace. Another club, presenting a useless ruff-sluff, now completed declarer's downfall. Ruffing in hand or high on the table would have been fruitless, so declarer tried the table's seven. East's nine of hearts forced declarer to overruff with the ten, and South tried to split out the hearts by cashing the ace-king. The end result was down three.

For the contract to succeed, declarer needed to find West with the ace of spades and 3-2 breaks in both red suits. After ruffing the second trick, declarer should have immediately ducked a diamond. Declarer can ruff the club return and must then lead a spade. West can grab the spade and force declarer with another club, but South is in control.

The ace and king of hearts are cashed, and the king of spades serves as an entry to dummy to use the queen of trumps to draw the last enemy trump. Now declarer can return to hand with a diamond and claim the contract when that suit breaks favorably.



"We've just walked two miles... that's 14 for him."

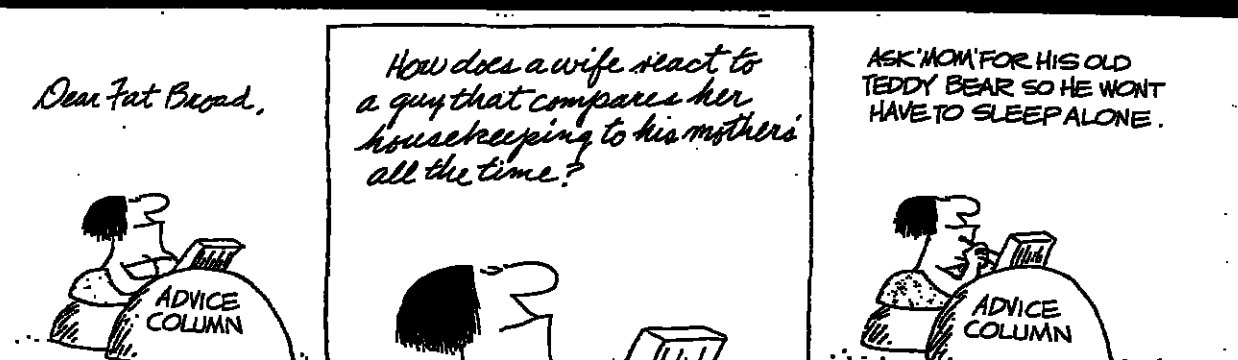
THE WIZARD OF ID

By Brant Parker and Johnny Hart



B.C.

By Johnny Hart



YOUR STARS



Aries (March 20 - April 18)

You should not think that what you would like to be actually is. Avoid trying to do too many things all at once. Take special care to observe speed and safety limits. Be friendly.



Taurus (April 19 - May 19)

You are more liable than usual to make mistakes so be on the lookout for them. You will have reason to feel more contented than you have of late. Do not dwell too much on the past and on what might have been. Be punctual.



Gemini (May 20 - June 20)

You will be in a better mood but beware when dealing with an irascible person. Make sure you do not eat too many sweet things. Avoid making promises it would be hard to keep. Be responsive.



Cancer (June 21 - July 21)

You will find it easier to understand what is on your partner's mind. You should not attempt to do anything too unusual just now. Do not try to deceive others, or they will do the same to you. Be frank.



Leo (July 22 - Aug 21)

Before attempting to do something which you have not done for a long time try a little more practice. You should not eat as though you were starving unless you really are. You will not get your way in all things. Be helpful.



Virgo (Aug 22 - Sept 21)

You should not work too hard but nor should you allow yourself to be distracted. It would be wrong for you to try to evade the responsibility for something you have done.



Libra (Sept 22 - Oct 22)

You will be able to avail yourself of a good opportunity, but only if you act decisively. You should do your best to avoid getting into an argument. And do not think that you are all that much better than everyone else. Be moderate.



Scorpio (Oct 23 - Nov 21)

You will not be in the best of moods and should do your best to avoid quarrels. You will not find it easy to recognise someone whom you have not seen for some time. You will be able to do a friend a favour and should do so. Be polite.



Sagittarius (Nov 22 - Dec 21)

Something of which you had high hopes will not come up to expectations but then, perhaps you expected too much. You will be able to make good progress with a personal matter.



Capricorn Dec 22 - Jan 19

You will be in the right frame of mind to do what has to be done. There is more danger of an upset stomach so do take extra care. All exaggerations and half-truths are to be avoided. Be consistent.



Aquarius (Jan 20 - Feb 18)

You may not be in the best of moods and should try to take it easy. Do what you can to take your mind off work. Do not treat others with disdain or contempt; they may do the same to you. Be resilient.



Pisces (Feb 19 - March 19)

You will feel a little more like doing something new and different. Your lucky numbers are 10 and 26. However make sure you do not abandon your principles. Consider an offer or proposal most carefully. Be firm.

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Danilo suffers first defeat in Filcheck tourney

NEWCOMER and erstwhile leader, Danilo Calasin suffered his first defeat in the hands of Neil Dumalo in a Sicilian-Najdorf variation in the on-going Filcheck First Active Tournament final of Friday.

The game was even until the 18th move when Calasin made a dubious knight sacrifice. Two moves later Dumalo made his own knight sacrifice which gave him the advantage. Calasin resigned after the 41st move.

In another game, Rene Mostrales turned a losing game into a win against Wahab Alameda. The over confidence of Alameda, when Mostrales got into time trouble in the first time regulation, caused him to lose a seemingly winning game.

The match between Thony Monreal and Edwin Borigas resulted in a thrilling draw when the latter, with a pawn up, couldn't make any headway in a rook and pawn end game.

Ali Macaayan prevailed over top favourite and seeded Rading Moje in a Gruenfeld variation. The upcoming rounds of the finals are expected to be more exciting as the seeded favourites will be playing against each other.



An action shot of an earlier Braves' game.

SPORTS BRIEFS

17-man squad

RIO DE JANEIRO, Nov 11, (Reuters): Brazilian coach Sebastiao Lazaroni yesterday announced his 17-man squad for next Tuesday's soccer friendly against Yugoslavia with several prominent players missing from the list.

Borussia lose

BONN, Nov 11, (Reuters): Borussia Moenchengladbach, already having their first taste of life at the bottom of the West German First Division soccer table, lost 1-0 in the third round of the Cup yesterday to part-timers Kickers Offenbach.

Stadium ban

BERNE, Nov 11, (Reuters): Partizan Belgrade will have to play the home leg of their European Cup Winners' Cup quarterfinal 300 kms from their stadium after serious crowd trouble at the second leg, second-round tie last week, the European Football Union (UEFA) said today.

Greek champions

ZURICH, Nov 11, (Reuters): Greek soccer champions Aek Athens were banned for a year from European competitions because of misbehaviour by their spectators in a European Cup match earlier this month.

Marathon bridge

RESULTS of marathon bridge game held on Friday:
1. Ravi & Mukherjee
2. Nahl Akl & Lollo Murthwite
3. Zamanin & Qattan

Eight birdies

GOTENBA, Japan, Nov 11, (Reuters): Ken Green shot eight birdies in his 65, the day's best score, to share the lead after the second round of the 120 million yen (\$840,000) Masters golf tournament today.

W. Indies players

BRIDGETOWN, Barbados, Nov 11, (Reuters): The West Indies Cricket Board of Control (WIBC) said yesterday that it would consider written applications for reinstatement from Caribbean cricketers banned for playing in South Africa before April 1, 1989.

Sports leaders

HARARE, Nov 11, (Reuters): Leaders of South Africa's non-racial sports federations met today for discussion talks on the future of the international sports boycott of their country.

Italy triumph

VICENZA, Italy, Nov 11, (Reuters): Italy beat Algeria 1-0 (halftime 0-0) in an international soccer friendly today. Scorer: Aldo Serena (75th minute), attendance: 28,000.

Rugby match

CORK, Ireland, Nov 11, (Reuters): New Zealand withstood some early pressure from Munster to beat the Irish side 31-9 in their rugby union match today.

France win

LILLE, France, Nov 11, (Reuters): France, trailing by seven points at halftime, reverted to their traditional free-flowing style to snatch a 25-19 victory over Australia in the second and final rugby union Test today.

Chelsea edge past Everton

QPR surprise Liverpool

LONDON, Nov 11, (Reuters): A 50th-minute goal by full back Steve Clark gave Chelsea a 1-0 victory at Everton today to keep them top of the English First Division.

Fellow-Londoners Arsenal, the champions, took sole possession of second place with a 2-1 win at Millwall as Liverpool crashed 3-2 at lowly Queen's Park Rangers and Aston Villa fell 2-0 at Norwich.

Chelsea have 25 points, one more than Arsenal on 24 and four more than Liverpool, Villa and Norwich, while Everton are a point further back on 20.

Queen's Park Rangers' player-manager Trevor Francis dropped Nigel Spackman after the former Liverpool midfielder had criticised his methods and managed Kenny Dalglish's side with his new sweeper system.

Welsh striker Ian Rush and his England counterpart Peter Beardsley were restricted by man-to-man marking. John Barnes was not so strictly policed and nearly spoiled Francis' plans as he hit back twice for Liverpool, the first



Falco got the winner for QPR

time with a penalty. But after two first half goals from Paul Wright, the first a penalty, the second a free kick that

swerved past Bruce Grobbelaar, Mark Falco, making his first full appearance of the season, struck the winner 10 minutes after the break. It was Rangers' first win in seven weeks.

Results

English Division One		English Division Two	
Coventry	1	Southampton	0
Crystal Palace	1	Luton	1
Derby	0	Manchester C	0
Everton	0	Chelsea	1
Millwall	1	Arsenal	2
Norwich	2	Aston Villa	0
QPR	3	Liverpool	2
Sheff Wed	3	Charlton	0
Tottenham	0	Wimbledon	1
Playing Sunday: Manchester United v Nottingham Forest		English Division Three	
Blackburn	2	Ipswich	2
Bradford	2	Hull	3
Bournemouth	0	Sheff U	1
Leicester	4	Leeds	3
Leicester	0	Swindon	2
Oxford	0	Oldham	1
Portsmouth	2	Port Vale	0
Stoke	3	Brighton	2
Sunderland	1	Wolves	1
Watford	1	Flymouth	2
West Brom	7	Barnsley	0
West Ham	0	Newcastle	0
Herts		Scottish Division One	
Postponed: Aberdeen v Rangers, Celtic v St Mirren	6	Dundee	3
English Division Three		Scottish Division Two	
Birmingham	0	Leyton Orient	0

Blackpool 4 Brentford 0
Bristol City 1 Bolton 1
Bury 1 Reading 0
Cardiff 5
Derby 2
Huddersfield 2
Hull City 2
Notts County 2
Rotherham 1
Sheff Wed 2
Sheff U 2
Stirling 1
Swansea 2
Preston 1

Played Friday:		English Division Four	
Crewe	2	Mansfield	1
Tranmere	2	Walsall	1
English Division Five		English Division Six	
Aldershot	6	Hartlepool	1
Chesterfield	1	Stockport	1
Lincoln	1	Gillingham	3
Maidstone	1	York	0
Peterborough	1	Doncaster	1
Rochdale	1	Exeter	2
Scarborough	3	Bury	0
Scunthorpe	3	Cardiff	2
Torquay	1	Gillingham	1
Wrexham	0	Gillingham	1
Played Friday:		Scottish Division One	
Colchester	1	Cambridge	2
Halifax	1	Southend	2
Scottish Division Two		Scottish Division Three	
Airdrie	1	St Johnstone	2
Albion	1	Clyde	3
Alloa	3	Falkirk	1
Ayr	3	Falkirk	1
Clydebank	3	Falkirk	1
Greenock	3	Falkirk	1
Partick	3	Falkirk	1
Scottish Division Three		Scottish Division Four	
Arbroath	0	Brechin	1
Berwick	1	Dunfermline	1
Cowden	2	Stirling	1
E. Stirling	2	Stirling	1
Montrose	0	Stirling	1

Wood and Velella hammer Kiwis

PERTH, Australia, Nov 11, (Reuters): Skipper Graeme Wood and his brother-in-law Mike Velella combined today to put Western Australia on top on the second day of their four-day cricket match against New Zealand.

The pair added 138 in 231 minutes for the third wicket to take the Sheffield Shield Champions to 203 for three in reply to New Zealand's first innings 283.

Opener Velella fell to the last ball of the day, bowled by off-spinner John Bracewell, for 91, leaving Wood unbeaten on 62.

Earlier, Wood made a rare appearance as a bowler to wrap up the New Zealand innings.

New Zealand, who resumed at 271 for seven, lost wicketkeeper Ian Smith bowled by paceman Alan Mullally for 26.

Wood then took the ball and induced Brendon Bracewell (eight) to loft a catch to mid-off. Willie Watson was run out without facing a ball in the same over.

Paceman Danny Morrison, the heir-apparent to the injured Richard Hadlee as his country's premier strike bowler, made an early breakthrough for the New Zealanders.

Morrison, who worried all the

batsmen with his pace and movement through the air, had Australian vice-captain Geoff Marsh caught at short-leg by Martin Crowe for two.

He later trapped in-form batsman Tom Moody lbw for 34 to finish with two for 35 from 14 overs.

Scoreboard

NEW ZEALAND first innings:	
J. Wright c Zoehrer b Mullally	3
R. Vance b Moody b Alderman	1
A. Jones b Matthews	13
M. Greatbatch lbw b Matthews	0
J. Crowe c Velella b Yardley	25
M. Crowe c Mullally b Yardley	87
J. Bracewell c Anderson b Yardley	86
I. Smith b Mullally	26
B. Bracewell c Matthews b Wood	8
D. Morrison not out	0
W. Watson run out	0
Extras (b-5 lb-16 w-8 nb-5)	34
Total	283
Fall of wickets: 1-5-23 3-47 4-49 5-97 6-233 7-267 8-283 9-283	
Bowling: Mullally 21-5-48-2 (5w 2nb), Alderman 9-3-11-1 (2nb), Moody 16-4-43-0, Matthews 17-2-52-2 (3w 1nb), Yardley 22-7-63-0, Hogan 10-1-32-0, Wood 0-4-0-1	
WESTERN AUSTRALIA first innings:	
G. Marsh c M. Crowe b Morrison	2
M. Velella c M. Crowe b J. Bracewell	91



Velella: scored 91

T. Moody lbw b Morrison	34
G. Wood not out	82
Extras (lb-7 w-1 nb-6)	14
Total (for three wickets)	203
Fall of wickets: 1-8-65 3-203	
To bat: W. Andrews, T. Zoehrer, T. Hogan, B. Yardley, C. Matthews, A. Mullally, T. Alderman.	
Bowling to date: Morrison 14-1-35-1 (6nb), Watson 27-4-61-0 (1w), B. Bracewell 18-4-43-0, J. Bracewell 18-2-37-1.	

Ankola takes six wickets

RAWALPINDI, Pakistan, Nov 11, (Reuters): Paceman Sanil Ankola staked an early claim to a Test place yesterday when he captured six for 77 on the India's opening cricket tour match against a Pakistan Cricket Board Patron's XI.

India, replying to the local side's first innings total of 234, were 40 for one when bad light ended play early.

Iqbal Qasim's decision to bat first after winning the toss looked like rebounding when six frontline batsmen fell to the accurate pace attack of Ankola and Vivek Razdan.

But Akram Raza, coming in at number nine, defied the Indian attack to score an unbeaten 62 and restore comparative respectability to the Pakistani innings.

Captain Krishnamachari Srikkanth and Raman Lamba started the Indian innings cautiously against an international attack of Zakir Khan and Salim Jaffer.

But once they had become accustomed to the pitch they both started to go for their shots, smashing Zakir to the boundary four times in his third over.

Zakir took his revenge in his next over when he trapped Srikkanth leg before for 22.

Scoreboard

PATRON'S XI first innings	
Shahid Saeed c Razdan b Ankola	14
Munirul Haq b Ankola	13
Shaukat Mirza lbw b Ankola	2
Saeed Anwar lbw b Razdan	5
Mansoor Rana c Tendulkar b Razdan	27
Shahid Nawaz c More b Shastri	35
Nadeem Abbasi b Razdan	0
Iqbal Qasim c More b Ankola	24
Akram Raza not out	62
Salim Jaffer lbw b Ankola	5
Zakir Khan c Azharuddin b Ankola	21
Extras (b-2 lb-13 w-4 nb-7)	26
Total	234
Fall of wickets: 1-28 2-39 3-39 4-39 5-74 6-74 7-116 8-174 9-214	
Bowling: Ankola 17-0-77-6, Razdan 9-0-63-3, Tendulkar 1-0-4-0, Maninder Singh 17-4-40-0, Shastri 13-6-24-1, Raman 3-0-4-0, Srikkanth 3-0-7-0	
INDIA first innings	
K. Srikkanth lbw b Zakir Khan	22
Raman Lamba not out	17
Sanjay Manjrekar not out	0
Extras (nb-1)	1
Total (for one wicket)	40
Fall of wicket: 1-40	
To bat: Ravi Shastri, Mohammed Azharuddin, Sachin Tendulkar, V.V. Raman, Kiran More, Vivek Razdan, Salim Jaffer, Maninder Singh	
Bowling to date: Jaffer 4-1-18-0, Zakir Khan 3-0-22-1	

Giants maintain unbeaten record

THE Kuwait Little League games were hit by rain on Friday but the morning games were the only ones postponed. The rain could not dampen the enthusiasm for the afternoon matches.

The Giants are the only undefeated Major League team, so far. The boys showed their strength against the Orioles. Shigeo Mano had 2 triples and 2 singles earning 2 RBI's. Koichi Hozumi's triple and double brought in 2 more runs. Mosato Watanabe, the Giants' first pitcher, had 2 triples bringing in 2 runners. Keita Miyazaki had two doubles and earned 2 RBI's.

The Orioles got behind in the first inning and just couldn't rally. The Orioles' only hit came from Jihad Sakhlleh with a double. Jihad scored on an excellent steal. Cory Fox was walked but was able to steal around the bases to make the Orioles' second and last run. At the end of 5 hard played innings Giants 14, Orioles 2.

The Royals and Twins had a fine day despite the weather. The Royals Naseem Al Shaya had a home run in the fourth inning. Pitcher Faisal Al Zubair made some fine defensive plays as did first baseman Naseem Al Shaya. The 1-3 combination proved strong against the Twins.

The Twins' batting was a bit stronger than the Royals. Ahmad Al Bolushi had a triple bringing in 3 runs. Habib Al Awadhi had a double as did Beshar Al Awadhi. Beshar also earned 2 RBI's. Shota Miyazaki had 2 doubles and a single earning 1 RBI. Razi Al Awadhi had a double along with Talal Mased.

The Twins won the game 12-4. Next up were the Cardinals and Dodgers. Two fine Major League teams. The Dodgers' pitcher, James Riley, had a pretty

good day. He struck out 10 batters and only walked 4. Hitters for the Dodgers were Sommer Al Nasrallah with a double in the first inning earning 1 RBI. Wadiah Khalaf also had a double as did Timmy Azzouz. Timmy earned 1 RBI.

The Cardinals had a lot of hitters to rack up the points. Doubles by Hisham Navarro, Paul Colbourne, Nasser Wogayan and Ramzi Janini helped the Cardinals take the game 10-5 over the Dodgers.

The Red Sox and White Sox game was another thriller for the fans. Both teams are evenly matched, but today the White Sox took the lead and kept it.

The White Sox have two fine pitchers. Grady Habib was back in as starter and pitched a fine game. Then Thuri came in to finish up and put the Red Sox away. Hitters for the White Sox with triples were Ziad and Robert. The doubles were made by Robbie Mason and Harry. Both brought in a runner to help the team beat the Red Sox.

The Red Sox pitcher Erik Fox started off slow but settled down to pitch a fine game. Hitters for the Red Sox were Theo with a nice single bringing in 2 runners. Aziz Al Arfaj had a single then stole around the bases to score. The final score White Sox 8 Red Sox 6.

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KPBL officers to be inducted on Tuesday

THE induction of officers for the newly formed "KPBL — Kuwait Pinoy Basketball League" is set for Tuesday, November 14, at the Mabuhay Restaurant, at 7.30 pm.

KPBL secretary-general Guillermo H. Lindimas has announced that the Philippine Ambassador to Kuwait, Mauryag Mohammed Tamano will be the chief guest.

Expected to come to the ceremony are the members of the KPBL — advisers, KPBL secretariat, and the board of governors.

All participating teams have been requested to send their respective board of governors representative to the said meeting.

The Arab Times is starting a weekly feature on the KPBL. Today this column will be confined to letting people know a little about KPBL and the people who will be running this organization.

From next Sunday, the Arab Times will look at the participating teams, followed by pre-tournament analysis of the KPBL First Conference.

The Kuwait Pinoy Basket-



Celtics thrash Hawks

BOSTON, Nov 11, (AP) Larry Bird scored 50 points, including 17 during a fourth-period Boston comeback, and the Celtics rallied last night for a 117-106 victory over the winless Atlanta Hawks.

Bird, playing in just his fifth game since missing most of the 1988-89 NBA season because of surgery on both ankles, also grabbed 13 rebounds and had eight assists. Bird, 19-for-25 from the field, took only two breathers on the bench before leaving the game for good with less than a minute left.

The Celtics led 72-61 with five minutes left in the third period before Bird took a rest and the Hawks capitalized on his absence. Atlanta began an 18-5 charge with Bird on the bench and continued to pour it on when he was rushed back into action.

Timberwolves 125, 76ers 118

The Expansion Minnesota Timberwolves won their first game ever, beating the Philadelphia 76ers in overtime as Tony Campbell capped a career-high 38-point performance with four points in the final 1:57.

The Timberwolves, Minnesota's first NBA team since the Lakers left for Los Angeles in 1960, lost their first three games. They trailed 118-117 with 2:17 left in overtime before Campbell's two free throws put them ahead to stay, 119-118.

Pacers 102, Heat 88

Vern Fleming scored 23 points and Reggie Miller added 22 as the unbeaten Indiana Pacers, off to their best start in 17 years, rallied from a 17-point deficit to beat the Miami Heat.

The Pacers, with the best record in the NBA at 4-0, trailed 54-34 late in the second quarter and 58-45 at halftime.

Pistons 125, Magic 121

Guards Isiah Thomas and Joe Dumars combined for 55 points and led a third-quarter rally last night that helped the Detroit Pistons defeat the Orlando Magic.

Nets 117, Bulls 107

Chris Morris scored 26 points and New Jersey used good free throw shooting down the stretch to hold off a late rally and defeat Chicago.

Michael Jordan, the NBA's leading scorer, was held to four points in the first half, but scored 22 in the second half to lead the Bulls' rally from a 38-25 second quarter deficit and 55-45 half-time deficit.

Edberg overcomes Courier

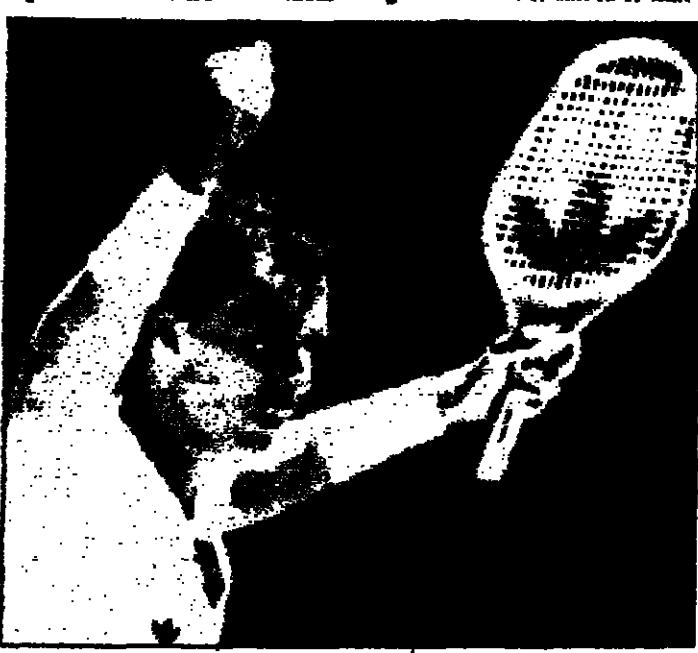
Lendl routs Mayotte

STOCKHOLM, Nov 11, (Reuters) Top seed Ivan Lendl former Wimbledon champion Stefan Edberg set up a semifinal showdown at the \$1 million Stockholm open tennis Grand Prix after beating American opponents yesterday.

They joined in the last four unheralded Swede Magnus Gustafsson, who earlier stunned fourth-seeded American Andre Agassi 6-2 7-6 and now faces Mats Wilander.

Edberg, the Swedish third seed, outlasted hard-hitting baseliner Jim Courier 3-6 6-3 6-4 to gain sweet revenge for a defeat to the 19-year-old American in the final of the Basle Grand Prix last month.

Czechoslovak world number one Lendl crushed big-serving seventh seed Tim Mayotte 6-2 6-2, bringing his career record against the American to 15 matches won and none lost.



Lendl moves into semifinals

Edberg, who has lost six of the seven finals he had played this year, set the Stockholm tournament he won in 1986 and 1987 as an ideal opportunity to break the vicious circle.

"It will be very tough, and I must raise my game to a higher level than tonight if I am to beat Lendl. Above all, I must get a good start," he said.

Edberg and Lendl, whose Stockholm appearance was a second-round defeat in 1978 when he was 18, have met twice this year. Lendl beat the world number three in the final of the Scottsdale Grand Prix last month.

The 1989 French Open and Wimbledon runner-up got his revenge the next month in the final of the Japan Open. Overall, Lendl has won eight and lost five of their encounters.

World number five Agassi, beaten by a player ranked 87 places below him, said: "I thought I did alright, but I lost to a better player. There's not much more to say."

The American's normally swift legs looked tired and his strong forehead was subdued as the Swede broke Agassi's serve twice in the first set and easily ran away with the second set tiebreak.

Gustafsson's victory underlined a winning streak for home players inspired by a 14,000 capacity crowd in Stockholm's new dome-shaped Globe Arena where the tournament is being played for the first time.

Defending champion Boris Becker, the Stockholm favorite alongside Lendl, went out on Thursday in a stunning third round defeat to Jan Gunnarsson.

The Swede, physically and mentally drained by the greatest victory of his career, was humiliated by Wilander 6-3 6-0 in their quarter final.

"That's life on the tennis circuit. In other sports you can celebrate for days. In tennis it's a question of 14 hours," said Gunnarsson, adding that he had problems sleeping after his late night clash with Becker.

Former world number one Wilander, who has slipped to 14th place this year, displayed what he described as his best tennis in months when he pleased the crowd with a wide repertoire of passing shots, lobs and drop shots.

"This was no doubt my best match in three months. That old feeling was there, and I made no errors," Wilander said, adding he should not be discounted as eventual Stockholm victor.

Winning this tournament would for me be comparable with a Grand Slam title considering my record this year," said Wilander, whose losing streak began with a second round defeat in Stockholm last year.

Navratilova opts out of tournament

CHICAGO, Nov 11, (Reuters) Larisa Savchenko of the Soviet Union moved into the semifinals of the \$250,000 Chicago Tennis Tournament yesterday when top seed Martina Navratilova withdrew with a groin injury.

Navratilova, who has won the tournament nine times, said she had a slight case of flu in addition to the injury which she said was aggravated in her victory over Donna Faber Wednesday.

"Mostly it is my groin," said the second-ranked Navratilova whose status for next week's season-ending championships in New York is now in doubt.

"I could't even play close to 100 per cent and that would not be fair to the crowd or the person I was playing. I'm going to be staying in bed."

In this evening's semifinals, Savchenko was to face third seed Helena Sukova of Czechoslovakia who defeated American Ann Henricksson 6-4 6-4.

Second seed Zina Garrison destroyed seventh-seeded fellow American Pam Shriver 6-3 6-0 in another quarter final, ending Shriver's hopes of qualifying for the season finale.

Garrison today was to face fourth seed Manuela Maleeva of Bulgaria, who won 12 of the last 13 games in a 6-1 6-1 rout of American Gretchen Magers.

Despite her defeat, Magers earned the final berth in the 16-player championships when Shriver was eliminated.



Martina Navratilova

McEnroe booted off court

LONDON, Nov 11, (Reuters) Top seed John McEnroe was booted off court yesterday after completing a London Grand quarterfinal victory over Olympic champion Miloslav Mecir in controversial style.

Large sections of the crowd voiced their disapproval as the five times champion walked off a 2-6 6-4 6-3 winner.

Czechoslovak Mecir, the eighth seed, held two breakpoints at 5-3 down in the third set. When McEnroe served to save the second, Mecir — and many of the fans at Wimbledon — felt the ball was wide. But the line judge and American umpire Richard Kaufman judged it good and the score went to deuce despite Mecir's fervent protests.

An ace took McEnroe to his third matchpoint — Mecir had saved two in the eighth game — and the American hit what would have been another ace on the first service if the baseline judge had not called him for a foot fault for the sixth time in the match.

But the second serve was good and McEnroe finished off a short rally with a winning forehand volley to set up a semifinal with unseeded Frenchman Guy Forget this evening.

Mecir, who had beaten McEnroe twice in four previous meetings, made the former world number one look like a novice in the swift first set, going 5-0 up before the American responded with a break.

McEnroe struggled, particularly with his first serve, and said: "It was one of those days when you really have to push yourself."

"I just felt very stiff and I felt tired," he added.

"Mecir uses his hips a lot more than any other player so that is like a disguise and he also runs so well."

Forget continued his comeback after five months off with an injury by beating bad-tempered American Robert Seguso 7-5 6-3 in his quarterfinal of the \$517,000 tournament.

Second-seeded Michael Chang, seeking his first tournament win since his French Open victory in June, had a harder time in a 6-3 6-4 victory over Andre Chesnokov of the Soviet Union. The match contained 12 service breaks.

Both men, who met in the French Open semifinals, played a fast, attacking game but Chesnokov, seeded seventh, made mistakes when he began to rush the ball.

He held his service only once in the second set and though he hit four aces in the seventh game he dropped his serve on the third breakpoint when he put a forehand into the net.

"Until I got a really good approaching shot I didn't really stand a chance of winning at the net," said the 17-year-old Chang who wrapped up victory on his second matchpoint when Chesnokov hit a lob out.

Unseeded Australian Wally Masur, a quarterfinalist at the Paris indoor tournament last week, continued his good run by dumping third seeded American Brad Gilbert out of the London event with a 7-6 3-6 6-3 win.

Gilbert, who is ranked seventh in the world and has qualified for the Masters, repeatedly chided himself aloud as he hit errors to allow Masur to take the upper hand in the deciding set.

Gilbert hit an ace to save the second breakpoint against him in the sixth game but put a backhand into the net on the next point to give Masur a 4-2 lead.

Masur, spurred on by the crowd, overturned three breakpoints against him when he was serving for the match at 5-3, then hit a backhand wide on his first matchpoint to go back to deuce.

But Gilbert obliged with two backhand errors to give Masur a place in the semifinals against Chang.

"I have played Brad four times before and I just couldn't get past him," said Masur, an Australian Open semifinalist in 1987. "I just wanted to win so badly I could taste it."

Jaite fights back to edge past Mattar

SAO PAULO, Nov 11, (Reuters) Second-seeded Argentine Martin Jaite erased a 1-4 second set deficit to defeat fifth seed Luis Mattar of Brazil 6-4 6-4 in a quarterfinal of the \$130,000 Sao Paulo Open tennis tournament yesterday.

Jaite, ranked 15th in the world, volleyed with accuracy and served well as he advanced to the semifinals where he will face the winner of a rain-postponed match between Spain's Francisco Roig and Mark Koevermans of the Netherlands.

Earlier Roig completed a rain-halted second-round match with a shock 6-7 7-6 7-6 upset of third seed Jaime Yzaga.

Spain's Javier Sanchez, the fourth seed, joined Jaite in the semifinals with a hard-fought 7-6 (7-5) 3-6 7-6 (7-4) victory over sixth seed Marcelo Filippini of Uruguay.

Sanchez will next face either top-seeded American Jay Berger or Frenchman Jean Fleuriat whose quarterfinal was postponed by rain yesterday.

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The Messilah Beach Hotel team.

Messilah finish sixth

A MESSILAH Beach Hotel team represented Kuwait in the 18th Dubai Raft Race last week and performed well against some tough competition.

The Messilah team consisted of Mark Egginton (team captain), Chris Myers, Ziad Abd Al Rahim, Maen Al Oudah, Terry East, Alex Tallett, Ladislav Pasco and John McCawley.

Throughout the day the Messilah Beach Hotel team proved a force to contend with, beating a lot of local teams and earning themselves a place in the semifinals. A bad draw saw the team up against the strong favourites Dubai Police, Dubai Dry Docks, the Coast Guards and another three teams.

After a close start, the Messilah team were rammed towards one of the buoys, and lost ground on three other rafts. They slowly caught up to produce a close finish, but a fourth place for the team saw them out of the final as only the first three teams qualified.

The final was again won by the Dubai Police who have never yet lost, the Coast Guard were disqualified, this leaving the Messilah Beach Hotel team in a well earned sixth place out of forty-two rafts.

Mark Ennington, the team captain, stated that "with a full crew and their own raft the team could have won the event. Next year if a sponsor is available Messilah intend to go back with a vengeance and put Kuwait on the racing map."

WBO fight cancelled

IMINI, Italy, Nov 11, (AP) A scheduled World Boxing Organization heavyweight fight between unbeaten Italian title holder Francesco Daminani and South African challenger Pierre Coetzee has been cancelled, the champion's manager announced yesterday.

Umberto Branchini said the Nov 25 bout in Puerto Rico was cancelled because the South African Television Company withdrew its original financial support to organizers.

He said Daminani's title defense will be rescheduled in Italy against a new challenger to be picked among Americans Michael Dokes, Tim Witherspoon, Renaldo Snipes and Brazilian Adilson Rodriguez.

Discover gold

Government Warning: Smoking is a major cause of cancer and diseases of the lungs, heart and arteries.



Sheikh Fahd welcomes idea of Iran visit

THE head of the Iranian delegation to the Peace and Friendship Games General Nasser Namoz said yesterday that Sheikh Fahd Al Ahmad had welcomed the idea of the Kuwait soccer team visiting Tehran to play friendly matches. He said that he would be very happy to receive the Kuwaiti team.

Namoz added that the dates had not been fixed for the visit. He also expressed his total support for the holding of the Games on regular basis.

Namoz said that the Games carry very noble objectives as they are the only sports meeting that bring together the Muslim youths in a clean and honest competition.

Gen. Namoz praised Sheikh Fahd Al Ahmad for his activities. He stressed that these Games wouldn't have materialised but for the personal efforts of Sheikh Fahd Al Ahmad. He said that in the beginning Iran was not ready to take part in the Games, but Sheikh Fahd continued his contacts with them and they decided to participate.

He added that it was a great opportunity for the Iranians to come to Kuwait as they greatly benefited from playing and forming friendship with the Muslim youths here.

In a related development, the president of the African Athletics Federation and chairman of the Senegalese Olympic Committee, Lamin Dyok yesterday invited Sheikh Ahmad Fahd Al Ahmad the vice president of Kuwait Handball Federation, to attend the African Athletics championship due to be held in Senegal in July next year.

Sheikh Ahmad accepted the invitation. This came during a meeting between the two officials held yesterday at the Kuwait International Hotel.

Meanwhile Sheikh Fahd, who is also the deputy chairman of the organising committee of the Games, will hold tomorrow a press conference at 10.00 am at the press centre. A large number of newsmen and correspondents are expected to attend the conference.

Algeria lose easily, UAE put up a fight

Kuwait win basketball and handball titles

KUWAIT made it three titles in a row by winning the basketball and handball competitions at the Peace and Friendship Games yesterday. They had earlier won the volleyball championship on Thursday.

In yesterday's matches, Kuwait first took the handball title by cruising to an easy 26-17 victory over Algeria but were made to fight for their 77 win over the United Arab Emirates in the basketball event.

In the basketball competition, Nasser Boshnaq and Faisal Boursli played one of their best matches in the tournament to help Kuwait beat UAE 77-72. The two players together scored 65 points, leaving only 12 points to be scored by the rest of the team.

Nasser Boshnaq, in particular, utilised his experience towards the end to score 35 points. Boursli added 30 points.

But credit must be given to the UAE team for fighting back very bravely in the second half to bridge the gap at one stage to only four points. But they have to blame only themselves for committing too many fouls. In the last 6 minutes, 3 of their main players were sent out for committing five fouls, one of them was their top scorer and tallest player in the field, Abdul Latif Abdul Elah.

Kuwait got off to a very good start and dominated the proceedings of the first half. They were helped by the shaky start of the UAE team, who missed many easy chances to score, some of them from under the board. They also left Boshnaq and Boursli unmarked. Boshnaq, in particular, played a major role in Kuwait's win. He played a very steady game from the start to the end. His accurate shooting helped Kuwait to finish the first half with a 12-point lead at 45-33.

Things totally changed in the



The basketball team captain receives the champions trophy.

second half. UAE changed their strategy and as time progressed they pressed harder and played most of the second half with man to man marking. Abdul Elah was made to mark Boshnaq. He succeeded to some extent in restricting him, but in the course of play committed fouls. He was sent out 6 minutes from the end after committing five fouls and becoming UAE's top scorer with 24 points. Soon he was followed by Mohammad Taleb and Ulawi Ali, thus depleting the attack of the UAE team at a time they were getting into their stride.

UAE bridged the margin to only four points. But the replacements for the three players were not good enough. With less than four minutes to go and with Kuwait leading by only four points, Nasser Boshnaq used his magic. As he attempted to shoot, fouls were committed against him, and he succeeded in scoring 8 points in the last 4 minutes alone, most of them from free shots, to increase the margin to 10 points.

UAE's play-maker Hamdan also excelled in the second half and guided his team's recovery. Hamdan, though scoring only 14

points, was the most dangerous player from UAE.

In the last 3 minutes, UAE attempts concentrated to get the 3-point shots to try draw level. They succeeded to some extent but they couldn't hold on as the match ended. In the second half UAE scored 39 points against Kuwait's 32.

In an earlier match played at 5.00 pm for the third and fourth positions, Syria avenged their astonishing defeat last month at home to Jordan during the Arab Basketball Championship. They played a fantastic second half to beat Jordan by a margin of 17 points.

The Syrians went into the second half with a first half deficit of 3 points and scored 58 points against only 44 scored by Jordan. The match ended 107-90 for Syria, while the half time score was 49-46 for Jordan.

In the handball tournament, Kuwait lived up to the expectations and easily overcame Algeria by a big margin. Kuwait got off to a good start and went ahead after few minutes. Their technical supremacy over their counterparts was very clear, so the Algerians adopted rough tactics at most times to stop the Kuwaitis.

The Algerians, knowing that the Kuwaitis were technically well established and strong both in defense and offence, adopted man to man tactics while continuously harassing the Kuwaiti players in a bid to stop them. But that tactic backfired against the Algerians as they committed many fouls and many of their players got two minutes suspension. They also conceded a number of penalties.

At one stage, the Algerians had to play with four players including the goalkeeper as three of their players were suspended at short intervals of each other.

The Kuwaitis, considering the tactics of their opponents, were not up to their standard that took them to the final. Brothers Ismail and Abdul Khaleq Abdul Qadous missed easy chances in the beginning. But they came back and played very well toward the end of first half and in the second half.

Ismail, the team captain, scored nine of Kuwait's goals. He was well assisted by other team members. The Kuwaitis ended the first half with a clear lead, 12-7. In the second half, the Algerians tried to organise themselves and succeeded in scoring 10 goals against Kuwait's 14.

After the match, Sheikh Fahd Al Ahmad handed over the trophy of the handball competition to Kuwait captain Ismail and gave away gold, silver and bronze medals to Kuwait, Algerian and Turkish team.

In an earlier match between Turkey and Senegal, for the third and fourth positions, Turkey took third place after a tough match which went into extra time. The normal time game ended in a 24-24 draw.

In the extra time, Turkey scored three goals against Senegal's one. Both teams fought an



The Kuwait handball squad with Sheikh Fahd



Kuwait's basketball champions

Games set to close today

THE Peace and Friendship Games come to an end today with the two remaining soccer matches, first for the third and fourth position and the second for the title.

The two matches will be followed by a colourful but a simple closing ceremony, which will be patronised by HH the Amir, to mark the end of the 14-day event. Sports teams from 45 Islamic countries competed for titles in five major games, basketball, soccer, volleyball, handball and athletics. The closing ceremony will follow the two soccer matches, followed by the prize distribution ceremony, some colourful displays by students including illumination displays and a parade by the participating teams.

The two soccer matches are expected to be watched by a capacity crowd at the Kazma stadium, which has been officially named as Salam (Peace) stadium in commemoration of the first Peace and Friendship Games. The stadium witnessed the opening ceremony and will host the closing ceremony. In addition, all soccer matches were played at the stadium.

In the first match to start at 3.15 pm, Kuwait will play Iran for the third and fourth positions. Kuwait lost to Iraq 1-2 and Iran missed the final match by losing in shootout 8-9 to the surprise team of the tournament, Uganda, in the two semifinal matches played Wednesday.

The Kuwaiti and Iranian soccer teams met twice a few years ago in Doha. They drew 0-0 in the first and Kuwait won the second 1-0. Both teams are technically equal, so an exciting and well fought match is on the cards.

Both the teams will be supported by huge crowds and this alone will provide the match with the excitement needed. Kuwait will be looking for the bronze medal, as other Kuwaiti teams in handball, volleyball and even basketball clinched the titles.

The final is expected to be even more exciting. The Iraqis proved that they have been improving with each match. They put behind them their surprise defeat against Guinea in their opening match. Their semifinal against Kuwait proved that they are technically and physically well prepared.

The in-form striker Ahmad Radhi can always cause problems to any defense. They have certainly made successful amendments to their defense.

The Ugandans will be eager to prove that their win against Iran was not only because of luck. The team comprises mainly inexperienced but promising youngsters. Perhaps, the main advantage of the team is their complete physical fitness and powerful play, a characteristic of African soccer.

Games a great success: Sheikh Fahd

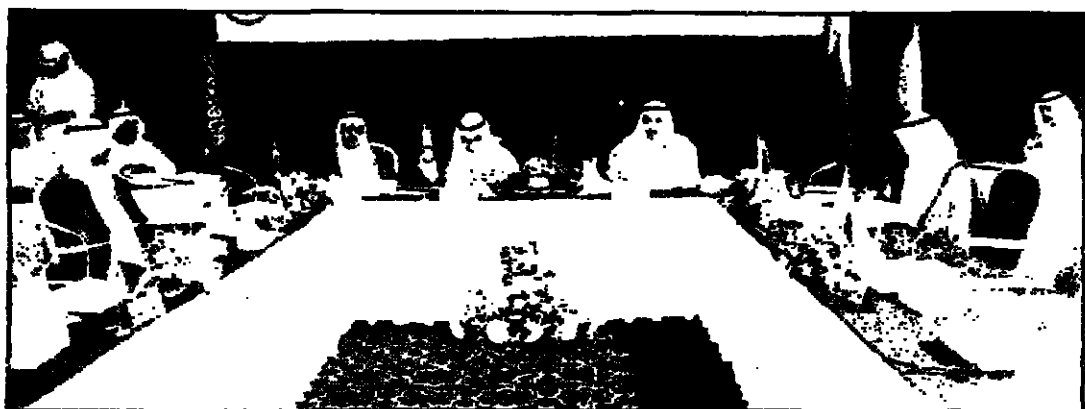
THE chairman of the Kuwait Olympic Committee Sheikh Fahd Al Ahmad said yesterday that the Peace and Friendship Games achieved for Arabs and Muslims what looked to be impossible before the Games.

Speaking at the meeting of the GCC Olympic committees meeting which started in Kuwait yesterday, Sheikh Fahd said that the attendance of OIC chairman, Juan Antonio Samaranch, 18 OIC members and presidents of the international volleyball, football, basketball and handball federations, is evidence of the great success of the Games.

The chairmen of the six GCC Olympic Committees opened their meeting at the International Hotel at 10 in the morning. It was attended by the Secretary-General of the GCC, Abdullah Bishara and chairmen of the Olympic committees of the six GCC states and other senior sports officials.

The meeting was opened by the chairman of the Bahraini Olympic Committee, Sheikh Issa Bin Rashid Al Khalifa. He congratulated Kuwait for the great success of the Peace and Friendship Games and praised the initiative of HH the Amir for calling for the Games.

Sheikh Fahd then welcomed the GCC sports officials. He expressed pleasure that the meet-



The GCC Olympic committees meeting in progress.

ing is being held along with the gathering of youths from 45 Islamic countries. He described the Peace and Friendship Games as a sports festival and an Islamic carnival. Sheikh Fahd said that the Islamic youth gathering achieved what political channels failed to do, particularly in the soccer meeting between Iraq and Iran.

Sheikh Fahd stressed that the Iraq-Iran match was not the only achievement of the Games. "History will testify that there were many great achievements of the Peace and Friendship Games," Sheikh Fahd emphasised. He said that after HH the Amir issued his initiative to organise

the Games and Kuwait began moving, many obstacles and hurdles were put on its way. Despite the short period to prepare for the event, "We succeeded in staging an excellent show at the opening ceremony." He said that for the first time perhaps, sportsmen who took part in the Games have been stressing that winning and losing was not important.

Sheikh Fahd said that 400 newsmen from various parts of the world attended the Games and all were amazed by what they have watched particularly the unbiased crowd support. Even Samaranch himself expressed his satisfaction over the great success of the Games and said that it will contribute to the develop-

ment of the international Olympic movement, Sheikh Fahd added. He said that we were more pleased by the great attendance of the Arab and Islamic sportsmen.

Sheikh Fahd concluded by stressing that "not even the impossible can hinder our movement and march as long as we have the strong determination and the unity in plans and ideas." Sheikh Fahd wished the meeting all success and also congratulated the UAE soccer team for qualifying for the World Cup finals.

Meanwhile, the Secretary-General of the GCC, Abdullah Bishara praised the organisation of the Peace and Friendship Games. Bishara said that the initiative of HH the Amir in calling for the Games, has many intellectual dimensions and a comprehensive outlook through the gathering of the youth of the Islamic countries.

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